From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: mack@mails.imed.com
Subject: [1076] 10 Meter Coordination Frequency
Message-ID: <9511078183.AA818377338@mails.imed.com>

As a frequent 6 meter operator I don't have a problem with using 28.885 or a novice frequency such as 28.385 at least until the sunspots get strong. These days most 6 meter openings are warned of by openings on the lower bands, so suddenly hearing a lot of activity on 10 is a clue to turn up the 6m rig.

Now that I think of it, 28.385 would be a better frequency to use as the ONLY one since all who have HF CW priveleges have access to that frequency.

My $0.02 worth.

Ray Mack
WD5IFS
mack@mails.imed.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: scalawag@ids.net
Subject: [962] 10m contest
Message-ID: <199512061328.IAA47311@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Gang:

I pulled an old message from the list about QRP freqs.
(I only save messages that I subconsciously know I'll
never need.)

Unless I've missed something since then (likely),
hope see the QRP gang this weekend on:

CW	SSB
28.060	28.885
28.110 (Novice)	28.385 (Novice)

See Oct QST p. 130.
Brief summary: Send RS(T) and State or Province.
DX sends RS(T) and sequential serial number.
Remember, you can only operate legally 36 of the
48 hours (we could only wish!)

72 Lee W5TEH
SCALAWAG@IDS.NET

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: scalawag@ids.net
Subject: [1012] 10m QRP SSB calling freq.
Message-ID: <199512070104.UAA76663@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Gang,

Dave, W6EMD has pointed out that the freq I mentioned
for possible QRP SSB use in the upcoming 10m contest
is the 6m "heads-up" freq. (28.885). I now recall
that that freq is important and widely used for coordination
for 6m openings.

As I had mentioned in my original posting I had pulled
those freqs from a message on this list from around
May '95.

Am not sure of any other possible conflicts (but 10m
is a Big band!) so guess if nothing is heard those
others are OK. Anyone got a better listing for
general SSB QRP freq? If not, lets not (PleazEEE)
start a thread on this.....just listen for QRPers
around 28.880 and/or a bit down.

72, Lee, W5TEH

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Dick G0BPS <dick@kanga.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [1027] 160m
Message-ID: <247@kanga.demon.co.uk>

Hi Gang,   160 is my other favorite band.
My main one is 2m! I have a great 2m DX QTH !!

I have used an 80m wire loop antenna, vertically
mounted, also a 40m loop, horizontal. In a delta loop
configuration. Both worked very well for DX. Best was
VK with a 599 report on the 40m delta. It was only at
30 ft AGL but tuned for the band and worked well.
My current house is a bungalow, (single storey)

on top of the highest point for miles. So will run
a wire loop around the gutter (160ft) and try it out.
News on this to follow. My main disadvantage is that
I have power lines around 3/4 of the house plot!
Oh well.....   back to the drawing board....

TTFN de Dick
```
****************************************
*                                      *
*    Dick G0BPS / G0ROO KANGA PRODUCTS   *
*    The UKs biggest supplier of great   *
*    QRP kits and simple test equipment  *
*                                      *
****************************************
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [980] 160M Contest Antennas
Message-ID: <951206121349_126603654@mail02.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-06 09:39:18 EST, you write:

>Pete, (NN9K), could you post the specification for the Grain Elevator? Does
>it
>work better full of corn or empty? Maybe one could fill it with copper
chips
>and end feed it? Gee, at 230 feet tall, my present Marconi antenna would
>only
>go up the side about half way!
>
>Anyway, just kidding about the spec. There are many here that are envious
>I'm
>sure.
>
>

One of the best times I ever had with 160M was when we took a daytime AM radio station off the tower and used their stick for a 160 meter antenna. It is 330' high, works out to be a 5/8 wave vertical with the usual 120 1/4 wave radials. Awesome transmit antenna. Couldn't hear thunder on it, though. It is an excellent noise pick-up antenna as well!

Moral to the story, make good friends with an AM radio station Broadcast engineer who is also a ham. Helps if the station is at the low end of the band (610 khz. here). And, don't forget to take your low-noise loop to receive with.

72
Ed

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: howie cahn <wb2cpu@world.std.com>
Subject: [1090] Announcing: A New Homebrew QRP Contest!!
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512072024.A12301-0100000@world.std.com>

Hi all --
I write the 'QRP Contesting' column in NCJ, the ARRL's contest magazine. A couple of months ago I asked for help here on the qrp-l list. I was looking for people who operate with homebrew QRP equipment, AND, who participate in the major, non-QRP-only contests like the CQ and ARRL DX tests. Frankly, I was disappointed by the response. There don't seem to be too many of you guys out there. So, instead of using my next column to report on homebrew, QRP contesters, I decided to do something to try to encourage more people to try it. Here, and in the next issue of NCJ (out in January), I'm announcing a new contest. Actually, it's a contest-within-a-contest. You can think of it as a new category for entering the ARRL DX contest, only it's sponsored by me instead of the League.

Contest Rules
Basically, the idea is this: The contest period exactly coincides with the February, 1996 ARRL CW DX Contest. All the rules for that event, as published in QST, that are appropriate for the QRP operating class, regarding valid QSOs, contest exchange, and scoring, apply. There will be two entry categories, 'homebrew' and 'kit', as defined below. I will award a plaque and certificates if I get at least two logs submitted in a category, each of which has 25 or more QSOs that have point value (the NCJ column will say 50 QSOs but I've decided to make it easier). The actual number of certificates will be determined by the number of entries received but I'll try to be liberal and creative in deciding. If your station is part commercial and part homebrew I will accept a log that contains only the QSOs made with the homebrew radios.

Please send logs to me by the same date they're due at the ARRL. Logs may be sent on paper in either printed or legibly written form, by e-mail in ASCII, or, on a PC-compatible 3.5" disk, either in ASCII or in a CT 7, or later, file. I will confirm receipt of all logs received that include an e-mail address. My address is:

Howie Cahn, WB2CPU

295 Beacon Street #23
Boston, MA 02116
wb2cpu@world.std.com

I'm not a lawyer and I'm making up these rules on the fly so please don't look too hard for loopholes. The idea is to have fun and to encourage equipment building and contest operating. I may change the rules some more based on whatever feedback I receive. Feel free to contact me to ask about rule changes or with any other questions.

I realize there already are homebrew QRP contests. They usually have relatively few participants and don't afford many of the advantages of the larger contests. During a big contest you may be able to work dozens of European super-stations, with their good ears and high-gain antennas, with less than a watt into a reasonably matched dipole (at least those of us on the U.S. East Coast can). My hope is that by getting on during a major DX test people will see the great opportunities these events offer for evaluating equipment and building up country totals.

What Is Homebrew??
As we've seen in the discussion here in the last few days, deciding what qualifies as homebrew equipment is one of the perennially debated questions in the QRP community. In general, I agree with those who say that whether or not your equipment is homebrew shouldn't factor into contest scoring. Since this is specifically a homebrew-only contest, however, I do need to define what homebrew is. As others have done, I've divided equipment up into 'kit' and 'pure homebrew'. I've come up with the following definitions for these two entry categories. The definitions are admittedly not perfect but I think are as good as others I've seen that are much less concise.

Kit Class: The installation of all components in the RF sections of both the transmitter and the receiver sections of all equipment used was performed by the operator.

Homebrew Class: Same as for kit. In addition, if one or more printed circuit boards are used in the RF sections of the transmitter and/or receiver, they must have been etched by the operator.

Could any of you who are editors of QRP or other club newsletters help me publicize this? Feel free to publish or repost this message. It may be edited as needed.

72/73... howie
wb2cpu@world.std.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: KE3FL@delphi.com
Subject: [1065] Boxes and NE 4040 questions
Message-ID: <01HYJ4BWVUWI96W4BA@delphi.com>

I would like to know if anyone has a source for nice boxes for
QRP projects. I am looking for one for the NE 4040 kit at present
but I can see wanting more boxes. I've seen good stuff at ham fests
& I guess I'll pay more attentioin next season, I know that Marlin
P. Jones has some boxes, but other sources would be appreciated.

Has anyone tried to place a 40 and 30 meter version in the same
box?

tnx & 73 de KE3FL/Phil
:)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com
Subject: [960] built in balun.
Message-ID: <0c58ce80@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

> the other day i found the 4:1balun for qrp on the list.
> i use a 300 ohm twin lead fed multiband at home (indoors)
> with a tuner. is there any reason i cant efectivly put the
> balun in my swl 4030 and use a reasonant ant fed with 300
> ohm? the stuff can be had cheap, light and is low loss.
> barry
> wb1edi

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: BFlorip@aol.com
Subject: [1025] Cascade Toroids and Power
Message-ID: <951207024820_127253254@mail02.mail.aol.com>

Hi Fellow QRPers and QRP-Lers,

Wanted to give you people the results of the last few days
of playing with the Cascade.

A few comments have been made about "remove a couple of

turns from your torroids" and it was bothering me to think someone may try that without a sort-of-rational reason for picking which torroid to attack...

At least as far as the Cascade (and Sierra) go a good indication of proper tuning and associated resonance is the position of the variable capacitors (trimmer caps). On the Sierra Wayne went to some lengths to make the initial tuning point on the trimmers the half way point. Don't get me wrong, if you've tuned up your radio and the trimmers aren't exactly half way don't worry. The point to worry is when the best amplitude is when the trimmer is either all the way meshed, or all the way open.

On my Cascade, I found the 75 Meter band module had two trimmers in the fully open position. That means the maximum signal may not be due to resonance, only to the minimum position on the trimmer.

In each case (and done one at a time) I removed one turn from the associated torroid and was able to tune for maximum signal at other than the fully open position of the trimmer.

In my case L5 was reduced by one turn to get C6 in to about the 2/3 meshed position, and L4 was reduced by one turn to get c8 to a nearly meshed position (not fully, about 80%).

The bad news is that with 13.8 Volts on the Supply, and the 75 meter module installed, I started with 70 V peak to peak on the scope across 52.4 ohms and ended up with the same value after the changes.

Not all bad for an evening of fun, and no loss of performance.

Still on the Cascade topic... After helping a couple of others with the
post-build tune-up on their cascades:

When you're installing resistors and capacitors, it makes tracing signals easier if you stand the resistors up so the signal end has the long wire instead of the ground end. That makes it easy to get the scope probe in there...

Secondly take the time to carefully remove the insulation from each of the leads on your torroids. It's not too obvious visually that there is enamel on the wire after the plated through hole is full of solder.

And, last but not least, if you've been "rude" to your final output transistor on the Cascade. You know, shorted mica washers, bad probing etc. you may find the output stage has very little gain. In one case this was due to the two one ohm resistors in the emitter lead changing from 1 ohm to around 20 ohms each. This can be checked in circuit (with power off) with the DVM just be sure there is less than 1 ohm resistance for the two resistors in parallel.

Sorry for the length for the non-Cascade owners/builders...

Feel free to use this in the QRPp if you want to Doug.

73, Bruce Florip aa7ar/6 Santa Clara, CA.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [1006] Congratulations!
Message-ID: <951206183625_65824415@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Way to go!

I love it when the QRP station scores big.
I once got to operate from a Hercules EC-130 platform using 100 mWatts from my HT. I worked 5 states from 30,000 feet. They would not reel out the 800 foot trailing wire antenna for me though! Too bad, I would have fun. It was a noisey (audio wise) aircraft, so I had to wear hearing protection over my earplug. Who said you can't work VHF/QRP!

72 de cameron, kt3a

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com
Subject: [983] Delta Loops (and others)
Message-ID: <M575138.002.6ezw2.1.951206175246Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBB/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

To Dave, KK5HA

Loops are very tolerant beasts, and great QRP antennas. You will work a lot of QRP stns using them.

You can feed yours at a bottom corner or a quarter wave down from the peak. The corner will give you a mixed polarization, while the quarter wave down will be vertically polarized.

I use a diamond loop myself, fed at a side corner for vertical polarization. Works like gangbusters (except on fox nights--still haven't heard one in a month!) Mast height is 50 feet, using a telescoping TV mast with an extension on top.

If height is a problem, you can compromise by using the top half as a diamond, fed at the side, and make the bottom more blunt, so it looks like a pentagon. Keep as much vertical drop as you can below the feed point, and make up the balance in a horizontal run. As long as the total length is resonant, the loop will work just fine. It's easier to tune if you short the feedpoint with line disconnected, and tune at the bottom where it's easier to reach. Then close the tuning point and reconnect the feedline.

I've also used reduced size diamond loops with the missing length made up with stubs of 450-ohm line. If the size reduction isn't too great, say 20%, you won't notice any difference in signal strength on 40m. Feedpoint impedance didn't seem to change enough to bother with.

I feed with a quarter wave of 75-ohm coax, then 50-ohm coax to the shack. Put a bunch of ferrite beads (miniature ferrite tubes) over the 75-ohm coax at the feed point as a choke balun. You could just coil up the coax as a choke balun at the feed point, but gets heavy and puts more strain on the side supports.

You will find that although loops are inherently quieter than dipoles on recieve, if you use vertical polarization you will lose some of this noise immunity. The plus to a vertical loop is no ground radial system required.

Some kind of low noise receiving antenna is a good supplement. I have a 40m dipole nailed to my back fence about eye height. Really helps when the vertical loop is getting hammered with some kinds of noise. Makes the difference between hearing and not hearing.

Hope you have as much fun tinkering with antennas as I do. You don't have to know a lot of theory to be successful, just be willing to steal any good idea that comes along and sounds interesting.
72, BobT N6WG QRP-L #26

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Subject: [1057] digest
Message-ID: <324D797A58@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Perhaps it is my screwy server again but for digest 201, I got
nothing past message #951. And that digest went to message #1017.
So I guess I missed a lot.

I went back to the server and asked for the digest again. I got the
same stuff---to #951.

Anybody else having problems??

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "Norman E. Fink" <norm@uu1238.flowerslabs.com>
Subject: [1070] DSPs and RFI Problems
Message-ID: <9512072034.AA18653@flowerslabs.com>

QRP-Lers,

I'm seeing a number of recent postings concerning the Radio Shack DSP unit.
To those of you who have used or are using them, have you experienced any
problems with them being overloaded by RF?

Next, to owners of MFJ units. I have an older tunable audio filter which is
overloaded when I increase my output power much above five watts. Has anyone
had similar problems, and what steps have or would be used to eliminate them?

Norm, K2NF

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "Mitch, WA4OSR" <fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us>
Subject: [1007] email add. for rev. dobbs
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.951206174729.10967B-100000@ns1>

i need the email address for the rev. dobbs of qrp fame who resides in
the uk...

thanks...

mitch

wa4osr

         * * * The *REAL HAM* owner of The Vibroplex Co., Inc. * * *

 Email: fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us   Felton "Mitch" Mitchell, WA4OSR
 The Vibroplex Co., Inc.
 11 Midtown Park, E.
 Mobile, AL 36606-4141 USA
 334-478-8873 Vibroplex, 334-342-7259 home, 334-476-0465 FAX

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [976] Explorer II/20m completed!
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512061016.J11414-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

I received a bubble envelope from Dick yesterday and painstakingly
removed the slightly-too-small 1.5-2.3 pF trimmer from the xmit osc.
circuit. Ever tried to remove something you couldn't grab from a
plated-thru hole?

Not exactly easy, and I proceeded to remove most of the land on the
bottom of the PC board (eek!). Anyway, it could've been worse, as some
of the plating-thru material was apparently still there. The solder
flowed into the hole and coated the lead and completed the joint
(phew!). Replaced the stranded 1-1/4" jumper with the included solid
wire and fired it up...

It worked - the xmit offset could be brought right into spec!

Other than the fact that the dial is a couple of kHz off between the
endpoints at 14.000 and 14.070, the radio is complete (even did the
self-tapping screw thing - removed them 3 times so far :)!

On to the next kit time permitting...

Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19 QRV 40-10/6/2/440
** Yes, you CAN do VHF contests with 25W and omni antennas **
Still stuck at 138 countries confirmed on HF w/dipoles...
----
72 & 73 from lovely suburban DC 301-549-1022 weekends/evenings

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Aa4xx <aa4xx@nando.net>
Subject: [958] Foxhunt
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951206041955.22353J-100000@parsifal.nando.net>

Paul,

Thanks for the interesting story on last Monday's foxchase. It's humbling to be on the receiving end of such an event...It's pretty exciting to have so many stations calling! I'm convinced that this list has some of the best weak signal operators in existence. Most stations copied the exchange the first time, especially the guys out West, where signals were often just above the noise level and competing with RTTY.

During the fray I messed up Jeff Gold's call. I remember thinking at the time that "WR4HF" was a weird call. :-) When he said "Jeff" and "TN," it still didn't click.

Your call took me off guard, because it was so strong. I hope to hear you again soon on 7040.

72,
Paul

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: kd7s@valleynet.com (Bill Jones)
Subject: [1019] Generating interest in homebrewing
Message-ID: <199512070338.TAA28496@sierra.valleynet.com>

Last month I had the honor of addressing a ham club in a neighboring city on the joys of QRP. My presentation was extremely well received and the planned 30 minute program was followed by almost an hour of Q&A. Of all the subjects discussed, the concept of building one's own equipment seemed to surface repeatedly. Yet, when I asked, almost no one had every actually built anything. So, fool that I am, I opted to put together a "Lets Build a Receiver" night sometime after the first of the year.

My plan is to gather together all the parts necessary to build a simple regenerative receiver and bring them to a club meeting. I am in the process of writing a rather comprehensive, illustrated construction manual reminiscent of the old Heathkit days. Club members would be formed into teams. One team would wire up an LM386 audio amp. Another team would wind the main tank coil. Others would mount the controls on a pre-drilled panel and chassis while another group would be wiring the detector and so on. Those with soldering experience could oversee the neophytes. My job would be to run from table to table to insure the electrolytics were installed

correctly and the MPF102 wasn't cooked by a hundred watt soldering gun. You get the picture. Anyhow, if all goes well, by the end of the meeting we should have a functional receiver that everybody had a hand in building.

So, why am I telling you this? Because I suspect that some of you have done something similar and perhaps you would be willing to share your experiences with me. Your thoughts, suggestions and ideas would mean a great deal to me.

==========
Bill Jones - KD7S <><
QRP-L Member #85
Sanger, California
Reply to kd7s@valleynet.com
==========

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "Dennis Blanchard, K1YPP, CINCC" <blanchard@nac.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [969] Grain Elevator Specification?
Message-ID: <9512061425.AA13075@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

Pete, (NN9K), could you post the specification for the Grain Elevator? Does it work better full of corn or empty? Maybe one could fill it with copper chips and end feed it? Gee, at 230 feet tall, my present Marconi antenna would only go up the side about half way!

Anyway, just kidding about the spec. There are many here that are envious I'm sure.

72'

Dennis, K1YPP

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: gtkq4al@qnet.com (Grover T.)
Subject: [1035] HAM - Earliest ticketed
Message-ID: <m0tNhQy-0000sHC@lute.QNET.COM>

Candidate this week for Earliest ticketd HAM now on the air:
Andrew A. Gussack W7PG 89YO
Call 9IV in 1920, when, as he said, DX was 13 miles.
A "sparky" then, now op of FT1000.
QRP/QRO QSO 951207 1314-1337

72 y Paz....Grover

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com
Subject: [1045] hb is what?
Message-ID: <0c709b50@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

if i use my swl 4030 with a scratch buily mini key am i
homebrew? i used a junk cb for a case for my swl rig. does
that make me a cber?
some people seem to think that to be home brew it has to be
a one of a kind radio.
barry
wb1edi

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: ljones@why.net (ljones)
Subject: [1024] HB vs Kit
Message-ID: <19951207063851963.AAH326@dal18.why.net>

Greetings Gang...

I just had to add my two pesos worth. This is my definition of HB. It is something that is constructed from scratch, i.e. not a kit. Kits are fine, but to me a kit is like baking a cake from a box mix. All the main ingredients are there, all I add is the milk and eggs. Kits have all the main ingredients there also, all I add is the solder and paint.

Now, if you limit a contest to just HB rigs only, then you won't have very many people operating the contest. Therefore, to have more people operating a contest it is
beneficial to reclassify kits as HB. Because, lets face it. Very few hams build their own tranceivers from scratch, what with the trouble of parts procurement.

I know that when I did this stuff for a living, one of the biggest problems was getting parts. And it got even worse when the quanitity of each part decreased. I had a project that I was working on that the total production run was 10 units. I ended up building up the units using sample parts from the various vendors. I must admit that it was cheaper this way, but what a headache. The sample parts usually took two to three times as long to get, than if I had ordered 100 of each part.

Like I said, just my two pesos worth...

72/73

dee-it dee-it   (Texas Accent)

Larry n5osg

Larry Jones N5OSG   NorTex   QRP-ARCI   G-QRP   NorCal   MI-QRP   NE-QRP
4028 Random Circle
Garland Tx 75043-3250

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu
Subject: [1081] HB vs Kit, $75 gift permits, marriage & other stuff
Message-ID: <01HYJAREKRZ68X1T8U@nova.wright.edu>

Ok, let's see... If I built it from scraps it's a home brew deal.
If I built it out of the book from scraps it's a home built deal.
ANd if I built it from a bag of stuff that I got from an address
in a book and it worked from the start, then it's a kit. But if I
needed to modify it to make it work, it's home-built. And if I
had to send it back to get it modified so that it would work after
I poured the parts out of a box that I got from an address in a book
and when I got it back it worked but I modified it anyway, then it's
home-built kit. But if it's a kit that I bought at the hamfest last
week and the parts spilled out of the bag on the way home and I had
to use some stuff from my junk drawer and then had to send it to
some guy in California whose address I got out of QST and he sent
it to my wife who modified it with some scraps that she had in the
box where she keeps the chains and straps then it's a kit that I got
as a gift because she said I could buy it, then it's home-made. But
then if it's home-made then I have to still send it back to the
factory in China that I read about in a magazine that arrived at the
house in a bag with the parts for the lawnmower that my 21-year-old
son can't use bacause it makes him sweat too much, then it's a kit.
Right?

Personally, I like to get points by using the radio that I bought
seven years ago and which now works because I finally got the stuff
that I should have gotten in the first place and didn't know abou
then because I was too stupid and it still doesn't work but I can
at least see the dial lights anyway to make points with the newspaper
girl's boyfriend's sister's brother who works at Drake but can't
understand why I still use the stuff, which does work.

73

Nils
WB8IJN
Oh, by the way... I am reminded of the Julio Cortazar short story about winding a watch: "They're not giving you the watch for your birthday. You're the gift. They're giving you to the watch for the watch's birthday."

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: NYOUNG@desire.wright.edu
Subject: [985] Headphones, crystals, surplus radios
Message-ID: <01HYHL6277K88ZLF4E@desire.wright.edu>

Ok, maybe I was wrong suggesting that using high Z headphones (600 Ohm versus 8 Ohm) wouldn't make a difference. To me they make no difference. To me it's moot point. So there. I use 'em and always have and am happy with the results. And besides, the headphones that I've had all these 25 years or so (the H-140s from FRS) work(ed) a damn sight better than the ones that the Navy expected me to suffer with.

I also recently got a list from CW Crystals, on the recommendation of one of our listees. I got an impressive pile of paper, some of it duplicating other stuff. But here's the kick: You can get F243 (that's FT-243) box xtals for anything between $4.95 and $3.95 with special priced "in-stock" xtals in other holder sizes for as little as $2 ea. Postage at 50-cents an xtal for multi-xtal orders. I'm gonna send off an order this weekend. In the meantime, the rest of the world should know:

     CW Crystals
     570 N. Buffalo Street
     Marshfield, MO 65706

Incidentally, the shop slogan is "Your Crystal Shop Since 1933." That's a pretty good track record, if you ask me, historical perspective of the days since 1933 and all deeply considered.

And then there's the R-174, which I consider one of the best surplus radios from before my Navy time that I've come across. I recently finished off the PS rebuild for that one and am pleased as punch to have a real tube radio with solid receiver qualities again. For the uninitiated, it's got a set of screw-lock "channel" settings. On mine I have a frequency where I heard a Turkic/Altaic language one afternoon (I love the way it sounds. Am learning Uyghur and am hoping to get fluent enough to check

out some poetry... neat sounding cadance/stress/tonal qualities). I also have the ol' standby Radio Habana spot at 11760 picked out, and the 5 MHz band freq for "Ecos de Torbes. Su emisora predelicta" in Caracas. All these stations come in great on the burned out motor winding wire that I have stapled to the shack ceiling.

The surplus radio of my dreams, however, is not an R390. My personal favorite is the R-1051, the multi channel, "digital" tuned, multi mode rack-mount that the Navy used to have by the score and bucketful. If you've used one, you know what I mean. If you haven't, that's ok, 'cause there's also the WRR2 receiver. Now that one is a real killer. Manufactured by National, the beast is a multi tube, possibly a Wadley Loop set with ISB potential, a wide range of selectivities and a monster tuning range and two blower fans. Yep. Blower fans. The ones I used were built on slide out, rotatable rack drawers and you could, in effect, open the box up like a sandwich to work on the deeper innards. Never had to do that. Damn glad about it too.

The R-174, by the way, was manufactured by Emerson Radio and Phonograph. Indianapolis, I think it was.

Too bad I missed the 160 contest. I used to have such fun making Qs on that one. Guess I'll have to clean up the shack for the tenner, eh?

73
Nil
eh?
Nils
WB8IJN

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Stan Skelton <sskelton@cln.etc.bc.ca>
Subject: [1053] homebrew vs kit built
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512070926.A21581-0100000@sparky>

For those of you not blessed to be of the "true North strong and semi-free", up here in Canada there are some legal implicatons to the difference between "home-brew" and "kit built"..... Unless you have an "advanced" certificate, you cannot build "home-brew" transmitters!.....Kit built is OK, presumably because they have been "engineered" and we won't be sending great gobs of R.F. spurting into the atmosphere to interfere with the

commercial (read BIG $$$$$) interests..... We can "home-brew"
receivers and any other peripherals, but nothing that actually
transmits......
73's Stan...VE7SKT ***QRP-L # 34 ***

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: bmitchel@cba.kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [1037] Homebrew vs Kits
Message-ID: <9512071444.AA11137@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

Pat Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>
Wrote:
There's an equally false assumption that collecting your own parts and
tack-soldering them together means you must be a radio god. It's not true,
and the rate of success for either method when used by an unqualified person
is about the same.

My comment: Not a god by any stretch, but gathering your own components
building your own boards teaches principles of tolerances, and design that
you won't get by doing a connect the dot kit.

Brian AE9K
Wrote:

That includes copying the PCB pattern or buying a board from a vendor. Thats
no different than buying a customized bag of parts (kit?) that may be
available.

Brian AE9K

Same Comment,

Try building a Sierra by buying the boards, and buying the parts by your self.
You exclusive kit builders would learn a lot. Stop being satisfied with connect
the dots! transition !!

73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995

From: David Fifield <fifield@lan.nsc.com>
Subject: [986] Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <9512061136.AA13273@davef>

--part_ACEB30AD0003354E00000002
Content-Type: Text/Plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: Inline

Hmmm....I've been thinking lately about the fairness of the multiplier or extra points we get for "homebrew" in our contests. I think this will open another can of worms, but what the heck....

I think there should be two (or more?) LEVELS of homebrew. To me, there is a large difference between making a kit and building up your "own" gear.

Kits generally come with complete sets of instructions which enable it to be built with no "real" knowledge of the circuitry (Careful here, I didn't say that everyone who builds kits doesn't know anything about the circuitry or principles involved, just that they don't NEED to know this stuff). It's possible to make a kit, turn it on, tweak it as per the instructions and then claim your extra points - is this really what the contest organizers had in mind for "homebrew"?

IMHO, sure, you should get more points for making a kit up and getting it to work, this in itself is a great achievment, but I think you should get MORE points if:

- It was your own design
- If you plagerized someone elses design or modified it
- You lay out and etch your own PCBs or made it ugly style or whatever
- You did all the metal/panel work yourself
- There is some technical/constructional uniqueness in the finished item

I sure don't want to denegrate the wonderful work that lots of *YOU* are doing - I think it's GREAT that so many people are getting on the air with something they built up themselves, but don't you think it would be fairer to those (few?) who go one step further and spend many, many more hours building their "real" homebrew stuff to give them the extra extra points? It would also provide a real incentive for even more homebrewing....which can only be a good thing, right?

--part_ACEB30AD0003354E00000002
Content-Type: Text/Plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: Inline

Dave Fifield, KE6ZBZ, QRP-L #92

--part_ACEB30AD0003354E00000002--

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Harry_Chase@smtpgwy.windata.com (Harry Chase)
Subject: [992] Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <9511068182.AA818290210@smtpgwy.windata.com>

A bit of extra credit for homebrew vs. kits is a good idea, but I wonder how far one should carry it: Should there be "levels" of extra points for a radio that has a purchased PCB but was hand assembled and had the housing homemade, vs. one where the PCB was homemade as well?

If you roll your own capacitors from gum wrapper foil, does that count for extra points too?:-)

For a fest such as Dayton, how about a show and tell contest - everyone brings in their latest project, kit or homemade, and judging is on the basis of how much effort went into it? This could be in the circuit design or in how nicely it was laid out, cabinet work, etc... There are a lot of criteria that seem to have merit here.

In any case, I think kits are a *very* good thing because they get the beginner involved in learning to build stuff and provide the more advanced ham with a quick starting point for getting a project going which he will either then modify/ embellish, or may simply have no time available to do a full - up homebrew project (time has been a precious commodity for me lately!)

Ob.QRP -- I got my Explorer II 40M kit , I just got back from a trip and it was waiting for me. Havent started it yet but the manual looks well thought-out and the kit looks to be of good quality. The vernier reduction bearing drive built-in to the tuning cap shaft is clever - is this an "OHR exclusive"?? I havent seen one made this way before.

Harry
WA1VVH

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com
Subject: [999] Hotel antennas

Message-ID: <M575660.001.6r520.1.951206221501Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBB/
PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

For John, KR4GL

I think it was this year that there were a couple of articles in QST on small capacitively loaded loops. On 40m you might have a loop maybe 6 ft tall and 8 ft wide, made of two or three turns of wire. Nothing is as good as an outside antenna, tho.

Check the 1996 cumulative index in December QST and see if there is something there.

I've done what you are trying, with rather indifferent results, and that earlier in the cycle when condx were better. I used a dipole, strung around the room.

Another possibility. If you can get a room close to your car, run a line out to a mobile antenna on a mag mount on the roof. Would be much better than anything you could do in the room.

72/73 BobT N6WG

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [1008] Houston
Message-ID: <199512070014.AAA08282@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Bob Walworth, AK5B, suggests Bonnies Beef and Barrel on Gulf Freeway (IH45 S) just south of downtown Houston.

So, I'll be there at 6:30-6:45 p.m. timeframe.

dit dit es hungry

--
Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: nskousen@scientech.com (Niel Skousen)
Subject: [1001] Houston 12/12 - 12/14
Message-ID: <9512062237.AA21397@rogue.corp1.scientech.com>

Will be in Houston 12/12 - 12/14, Looks like I'll miss meeting Chuck there,
but would be interested in meeting other QRP's if schedule permits...

73
Niel

----- -.. . .-- .- --... ... .- ------------
Niel Skousen, nskousen@scientech.com
SCIENTECH Special Projects
208-525-3742, 529-4721 (FAX) WA7SSA

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [953] Houston QRPers
Message-ID: <199512060648.GAA06751@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

If you live in Houston area, send me email. I'm
staying at the Residence Inn in Clear Lake. We
can pick a neutral point at some restaurant for a
get together for Thursday night.

I realize that Houston is spread out and we might
just have to drive 30 miles to get to a half-way
point, but hey, I get paid by the mile. :-)

Explorer II 40M about half built.

dit dit
--
Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Steve Thompson <kj7dn@primenet.com>
Subject: [975] HW8 Illustration Booklet
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.91.951206085435.7716A-100000@usr5.primenet.com>

Hi:

As the proud new owner of an HW-8, I realized quickly as I prepared to realign the rig that I am lacking the "Illustration Booklet" that should accompany the rig.

Does anybody have one that they're willing to part with? (For a price, of course) Or, if it doesn't violate any copyrights, can I get copies from somebody? I especially need Fig. 1-2!

Thank you es 73,

Steve KJ7DN

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-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
kj7dn                                     __  __     ____  ___       ___ ____
kj7dn@primenet.com                       /__)/__) / / / / /_  /\  / /_    /
                                        /   / \  / / / / /__ /  \/ /
___  /----------------------------------------------------------------------------
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```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Rich Hall <n7xnl@primenet.com>
Subject: [968] Hyrum's propagation
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.91.951206070439.29903A-100000@usr2.primenet.com>

Hi all, thought I'd pass this along.

Some of us here in the nice, warm desert of Arizona are busy building kits we got via the group purchase from Oak Hills Research. We are really enjoying the exercise and are looking forward to using our new rigs. For most of us, this is our first attempt at building a radio, so there is a learning curve as you might expect.

Hyrum and I are building the Spirit II for 40m, and we are both enjoying the process. He and his son are well ahead of me, as I am content to 'milk' the project (I already use my FT-7 and want to make this project last) but he is anxious to get on the air. Anyway, on with the story:

Near the end of the alignment procedure it is suggested that the rig be checked with another, using dummy loads on both. The procedure calls for tuning both to the same frequency and making sure both transmitter and receiver are on the same frequency for the rig being tested. The rig and the procedure both worked flawlessly (a surprise to both us novice kit builders), but we did have occasion to puzzle.

When he was transmitting, we would listen to the output of my FT-7 and tune and adjust as called for. The signal was quite weak, as we expected due to low power out and the dummy loads on both rigs. Then came the surprise. Hyrum touched the heat sink on the transmitting transistor to see how hot it was getting (quite hot, incidentally). To both our surprise, the audio output from the 7 went up many fold. The S meter jumped to full scale on my 7! We questioned what was going on. Was his rig defective somehow, and not putting out properly? Was there a ground problem, or a cold solder joint somewhere?

Investigating a little further, we noted the audio frequency from the FT-7 remained constant while he touched and released the heat sink. This would indicate that the frequency out of his Sprirt II was constant. We put my Oak Hills WM-1 on his rig and adjusted the rig output to a constant 1 watt, expecting to see it jump as he touched the heat sink. Another surprise lay here for us! The output of the Spirit II remained rock solid constant! For a few minutes we looked at each other, not believing what we were seeing and hearing. Constant frequency output and power output from the transmitting rig, yet the audio level and power input on the receiving FT-7 were jumping all over the place as he tapped on the heat sink!

Finally it began to 'sink' in:

Hyrum is a much better antenna than is his dummy load. Since his last name is Smith, I suppose we should go find a field strength meter and make up a 'Smith chart'

72...

```
              |   ~|    |
             )_)  )_)  )_)
            )___))___))___)\              Rich Hall    "toast the wind"
           )____)____)_____)\\            internet:    n7xnl@primenet.com
         _____|____|____|____\\\__        packet:      n7xnl@kc7y.az.usa
- ---------\                   /---------
  ^^^^^ ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^             33.43 N 111.79 W     (DM43ck)
    ^^^^      ^^^^     ^^^    ^^
         ^^^^      ^^^                    (I am NOT the comedian)
qrp arci #9008, qrp-l #171
-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-
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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: PA3ASC@bonny.hol.nl (Mike Perry)
Subject: [988] INFO: *** Benelux QRP Activity Week ***
Message-ID: <199512062015.VAA31397@bonny.hol.nl>

--======================_818312356==_
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

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Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

BENELUX QRP CLUB ACTIVITY WEEK
==========
26 December, 1995 - 1 January, 1996.

INTRODUCTION

The Benelux QRP Club invites QRP operators to join them on the air in their Activity Week, 26 December, 1995 to 1 January 1996.

The purpose of this annual event is to stimulate additional QRP activity during the break between Christmas and New Year. It is conducted in the form of a light-hearted un-contest, whose simple rules are given below. Dates have been deliberately chosen for synergy with the G-QRP Winter Sports, which takes place about the same time.

The QRP calling frequencies used are the usual ones +/- QRM, but note that in Europe, the 40-metre band is uses: CW 7030 KHz and SSB 7090 KHz, and in ON/PA/LX all top band activity must be confined to 1830-1850 KHz.

This year's Activity Week also contains a short experimental Foxhunt inspired by the successful series devised by Chuck Adams, K5FO; (Chuck gave his blessing to the propagation of his original idea).

Ours is only a two-day event, but with
multiple foxes.

For those who have not encountered the word
before, BeNeLux is a contraction of the
names of the three countries in the grouping,
Belgium, Netherlands and Luxemburg.

THE BQC H.F. ACTIVITY WEEK

This is not a contest. Activity starts
at 00.00 UTC on 26 December and finishes at
24:00 UTC on 1 January.

You work everybody else on any band, from 160
to 10 metres, but your station must be must be
QRP -- i.e. transmitter output not exceeding
5W cw/pep. Contacts may be in SSB or in CW.
Cross-mode and cross-band contacts do not count.

Scoring is 1 point for QRO-QRP contacts and
2 points for QRP-QRP contacts. The multiplier
is the sum of the DXCC and WAE countries worked.
Total score is the sum of the band products:
a band product is sum of the QSO points times
the multiplier points for that band. QSOs made
during the Foxhunt event (see below) may be
included.

Separate log sheet per band, with summary and
statement confirming compliance with licence
conditions and QRP rules should be sent,
before 28 February 1996 to the BQC Traffic
Manager, A.T.G. Willibordse, PA0ATG,
Wilgenlaan 86, NL-4871VE, Etten-Leur,
The Netherlands.

BENELUX QRP CLUB FOXHUNT.

The foxhunt takes place in the shack on 40
and 80 metres in CW between 18:00 to 20:00
UTC. The first hunt will be on Friday,
29 December and the second on Saturday.
30 December. The usual QRP frequencies,
3560 and 7030 KHz, will be used. The
assessment of the distances between stations
and the powers used will be based on - KRW:
kilometres per root Watt ('cos of the

theoretical inverse square law relationship).

Stations may be either "hounds" or "foxes", the
latter by arrangement with BQC Traffic Manager,
PA0ATG. Foxes call "CQ FOX"; hounds seek out and
work the foxes; a fox may change band at any time,
but must then stay on that band for at least 30
minutes afterwards. During the hunt, each hound
may work each fox no more than once per day, and
foxes may not work each other at all.

The parties to a QSO must exchange the following
information for their stations:
 - RST;
 - output power used;
 - the IARU QTH Locator (e.g. JO21hn);
 - name of the operator.
Each QSO with a fox counts 5 points.
(If the going is slow hounds may work each
other, scoring 1 point per QSO provided all
of the above information is exchanged.)

Logsheets should show the date and call sign of
the entrant and should give give for each QSO:
 - time, band, Call sign of other station;
 - RST sent, transmit power used;
 - full exchange received from the other station;
Use a separate logsheet for each day.
A summary sheet should be appended to the logsheet(s)
giving:
 - points per band and total score claimed;
 - name, address and call sign of the entrant;
 - the station IARU QTH locator;
 - brief station description.

Send logs before 31 January 1996 PA0ATG,
A.T.G. Willibordse, Wilgenlaan 86,
NL-4871VE Etten-Leur, The Netherlands.

Results will be published in the Benelux
QRP Club Newsletter and will include a
summary of scores obtained, those who WAF
(Worked all Foxes) and the highest KRW
achieved. The question of trophies and/or
certificates is still under discussion.

IARU 'MAIDENHEAD' QTH LOCATOR.

The IARU locator code is made up of
two, four or six symbols, depending
on the resolution needed. A four-symbol
code has a resolution of one degree of
lattitude and two degrees of longitude.
One degree is equivalent to 111 km
(70 miles) at the equator. A six symbol
locator improves resolution by a factor
of 24 (e.g. 4.6 x 9.2 km) at the equator.
Due to the curvature of the Earth,
the resolution in longitude becomes
sharper by moving away from the equator.

Full details of this system, and some
handy programs as well, are given in a
booklet available from:
   Folke Rosvall, SM5AGM, Box 8037,
   S-19108 SOLLENTUNA, Sweden.
(My copy cost six IRCs two years ago,
but better check for latest info.)

To find the coordinates of your QTH you
will need an atlas or a topographical
map. For towns and cities in the USA,
this info may still be obtainable (in
millionths of a degree) from:
http://tiger.census.gov/places.html.
The unzipped ascii file needs more than
3 MB of disk space!

A locator can be computed using the
method illustrated below. Consider
a hypothetical position at
75degs 36min 42sec West,
38degs 19min 31sec North.

1. Convert the coordinates to
decimals of a degree, assigning minus
signs to West and South angles:
Long -75.6117 = X, Lat 38.3253 = Y.

2. Take longitude X and compute:
A = (X/20)+9 = 5.21942
B = INT(A) = 5
C = (A-B)*10 = 2.1942
D = INT(C) = 2
E = INT((C-D)*24) = 4

3. Take lattitude Y and compute:
F = (Y/10)+9 = 12.83253
G = INT(F) = 12
H = (F-G)*10 = 8.3253
J = INT(H) = 8
K = INT((H-J)*24) = 7

4. Construct the locator code,
taking longitude before lattitude
for each pair of symbols:
(B+1)th letter of the alphabet = F
(G+1)th letter of the alphabet = M
D as an integer = 2
J as an integer = 8
(E+1)th letter of the alphabet = e
(K+1)th letter of the alphabet = h
Answer = FM28eh.

GL es 73
and compliments of the season to all.
de PA3ASC
End==================================

--======================_818312356==_
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

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Regards,
Mike Perry. [e-mail :- PA3ASC@mailbox.hol.nl]
=-=--=-=--=-=-=-=-=-=--=--=-=-=-=-=-=-=--=-=-=-=

--======================_818312356==_--

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "Paul Weiss" <pweiss@compumedia.com>
Subject: [1060] Looking for PC Logging Program
Message-ID: <m0tNlds-00069jC@compumedia.com>

Hello All

I am looking for a logging program for my PC. I have seen a few
freeware and shareware logging programs but I dont know which one is
better than the other.

Thanx.....Paul

Paul Weiss - KC7FYQ pweiss@compumedia.com

Ft. Lewis, Wa URL - http://compumedia.com/~pweiss

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: PAT DOYLE <DOYLEPS@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>
Subject: [1067] Looking for PC Logging Program -Reply
Message-ID: <s0c70b72.008@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>

I use LogMaster Plus/Plus. It is DOS based, works on most IBMs (8088 thru Pentium), and is very easy to use.

You can download an older version of it and its cousin, LogRanger, as shareware from its author's (WB2OPA) BBS, at (908) 787-2982.

MicroHam and LOG-EQF, both available as shareware, can be downloaded from ARRL BBS. They are both pretty good, but i found LogMaster to be better and you can merger CT version 8 files into LogMaster (CT9 files can be converted to CT8 format easily.

>>> Paul Weiss <pweiss@compumedia.com> 12/7/95, 02:09pm >>>
Hello All

I am looking for a logging program for my PC. I have seen a few freeware and shareware logging programs but I dont know which one is better than the other.

Thanx.....Paul

Paul Weiss - KC7FYQ pweiss@compumedia.com

Ft. Lewis, Wa URL - http://compumedia.com/~pweiss

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "Gary R. Hanson" <ghanson@uts.cc.utexas.edu>
Subject: [1050] MaciIntosh Logging Programs
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951207101034.12385A-100000@moe.cc.utexas.edu>

Hey Gang,

Having done a preliminary search through the ftp sites, I didn't see much in the way of computer logging programs for Macintosh computers. Did I miss some obvious ones or is the *obvious* conclusion...they don't exist. I've been a Mac convert since the 128k Mac toys, so don't even suggest that I buy a PC.

Another topic: I just started experimenting with audio filters and built the W1FB switched capacitive audio filter ala QRP Notebook. Question: I know I need to put it in line before the final audio amp and will one of these days, but when I just run the audio output into the filter and then into the earphones, I am getting tremendous loss. Do all filters knock the audio WAY DOWN? I did not have a meter to match the capicitors so how critical is that *mistake*? Is the loss because the capacitors are not matched?

In spite of the loss, the darn thing really knocks out the interference and gets down to a bandwidth of 100 Hz. I finished building it during the SS Contest and tuned 20 meters, boy did the filter make a difference!

Thanks for the advice and input in advance. This list has been a life saver on several other topics already.

72,

Gary, KJ5VW

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: ljones@why.net (ljones)
Subject: [955] Minikeys
Message-ID: <19951206062223464.AAA103@dal29.why.net>

Greetings gang...

   Hey guys. Not to be the fly in the onitment, but I have seen these Whiterook keys.
I can think of better places to spend $20 than on two red plastic boxes, some odds&ends
electrical parts and a mini phone jack. I can and will come up with something of better
quality that any person that can put together a qrp kit can build. As a matter of fact, I will start on the design as I speak.

72/73

dee-it dee-it

Larry n5osg
72/73

dee-it dee-it   (Texas Accent)

Larry n5osg

Larry Jones N5OSG NorTex QRP-ARCI G-QRP NorCal MI-QRP NE-QRP
4028 Random Circle
Garland Tx 75043-3250

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Aa4xx <aa4xx@nando.net>
Subject: [956] Monday Fox Rpt
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951206025251.22353A-100000@parsifal.nando.net>

December 5, 1995

Hi Gang,

Many thanks to all the Fox Hunters Monday night, Dec. 4th. You guys sure kept the Fox busy! Many signals were quite weak, but conditions allowed contacts with all but one call area (W-1 land). Special congratulations go to Henry, NA5K/M, who held his own with the rest of 5-land.

Thanks to all for making this a very FUN event. Here's the log:

QRP-L Foxhunt, Monday, December 4, 1995

(RST-given/RST-rec'd)

0300Z	WA9PWP	Paul	WI	449	559	5 W	Vertical
0302	AA2PF	Dave	NY	559	579	4 W	
0310	AA2WJ	Dick	NY	569	579	5 W	
0311	AE9K	Brian	WI	569	579		
0312	WB8E	Walt	MI	559	559		
0313	N3KFL	Al	PA	569	589		
0315	WB8ZJL	Paul	MI	589	579		
0316	NZ4I	Ranson	VA	449	339		
0318	AC4HF	Jeff	TN	459	579		
0319	NN9K	Peter	IL	349	549		

0320	AA4YZ	Kirk	OH	569	589	
0322	AK5B	Bob	TX	449	449	
0323	N2VPK	Mark	NY	579	559	3 W
0326	N2GO	Jim	NY	599	599	1 W R-7 Vert !!
0329	N6ULU	Stan	CA	449	229	
0330	K5UP	Glenn	OK	449	559	
0331	N4AOX	Clay	TN	459	559	
0332	NA5K/M	Henry	TX	449	449	
0333	W5HNS	Henry	TX	569	569	
0335	KA5T	Larry	TX	559	459	
0340	WO0Q	Marty	CO	339	439	
0341	WB9LKC	Ray	WI	569	339	
0346	AA0QU	Juni	CO	339	339	
0352	W6ZH	Herb	CA	339	449	
0356	N2WLQ	Phil	NY	579	579	
0358	KV2X	Tom	NY	569	599	
0404	WI6I	Ric	IL	579	559	4 W R-7 Vert
0408	N5SS	Dick	TX	339	579	
0411	KC5EQC	Don	OK	349	339	
	(Jumped up to 7.110 MHz)					
0422	KB0LMQ	Myron	CO	339	229	
	(Back to 7.040 Mhz)					
0435	AB5OU	Tim	NM	229	339	
0439	AA7QY	Roger	AZ	329	339	
0441	KF4DNL	Alan	FL	579	569	
0451	AA0VF	Rod	CO	349	339	
0456	N6GA	Cam	CA	329	449	
0459	KB0WZ	Dale	MO	339	339	

There were at least four contacts with Buffalo, NY.
You guys must be QRP Mecca for the NY area!

AB5OU takes the prize for tenacity. Tim was very weak, but he hung in there to complete the exchange.

Again, thanks for a most delightful experience on the part of the fox!

72,
Paul, AA4XX

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "Stan Goldstein, N6ULU" <stan@cruzio.com>
Subject: [1021] N6ULU's THE FOX !
Message-ID: <9512062028.aa08426@inside.cruzio.com>

Hello FOX chasers ..

Be sure to listen THURSDAY NIGHT 9-12 EASTERN
6-9 WESTERN

and everything in between for the 1995 CO-CHAMPION FOX.

Looks like those boys in Texas (their calls start with na5) are
really putting the pressure on me this year .

So I really need all the help I can get (yes I'll even work wo0q
who only trails me by 1 in the chasers count , and this will give
us a tie for now)

What a sport !

Remember a free car to all who work me tomorrow night !

72 Stan, N6ULU , on the left coast

--

Stan Goldstein

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Buck Switzer <n8cqa@tir.com>
Subject: [1088] New Address
Message-ID: <9512080142.AB21706@sun>

Gang - As of now, am using the "n8cqa@tir.com" as my primary e-mail address.
Will leave the aol account open till 02/01/96, at least, and will keep the
detroit.freenet address active. Local provider has better service (28.8) and
local number (multiple lines), can't turn it down.

72/73 Buck, QRP-L #41

Buck Switzer, N8CQA, 654 Georgia, Marysville, MI 48040-1243
Home:(810)364-9640 - Fax:(810)364-8179 - Work:(810)949-0151
n8cqa@tir.com - am441@detroit.freenet.org - N8CQA@aol.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995

From: BFG7AJC@NSDL.BELL-ATL.COM
Subject: [1068] No Digest - Fox Tonight?
Message-ID: <00316000017215000000002*@MHS>

For some reason I haven't received a digest for at least a day...maybe two. I think there is a fox hunt scheduled for tonight. If I'm right, what is the time/frequency schedule?

Also, I feel like my QTH is in some kind of 40 meter black hole these days. Not just on fox nights, either. I notice allot of 80 meter CW along with just about as much noise on my Sony 2010. What are my chances on 80 QRP with a very inefficient half-size (51') G5RV just 20' up? Been thinking about maybe building a SW-80. Real impressed with my SW-40. Any other recommendations? Explorer II for 80?

Thanks & 72, Dave KA3EAJ
bfg7ajc@bell-atl.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Stephen Trier <af295@po.cwru.edu>
Subject: [1048] NorCal 40A working
Message-ID: <199512071601.LAA02609@slc5.INS.CWRU.Edu>

Thanks to the help of many kind people, my NorCal 40A is working. I panicked too soon when I saw no output. I started debugging before I peaked C39 in the transmit mixer filter, which meant there was inadequate drive to the final. Make that about the 72nd thing I've learned from building this rig -- what a great educational experience! Sure beats classes... :-)

I put it on the air last night. I found a strong signal calling CQ and called him back. It turned out he was in Shaker Heights, maybe all of 5 miles away. He gave me a 559, and my CW copying & sending skills were terrible, but that couldn't can my excitement!

Thanks again for the help, and I'll see you on the air!

Stephen

--
Stephen Trier KG8IH
sct@po.cwru.edu

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Nick Franco <kf2ph@bnl.gov>
Subject: [1072] Now She Tells Me!
Message-ID: <9512072211.AA20002@bnlux1.bnl.gov.bnl.gov>

Hi All,

Well, just when you think you have them figured out.... they go an surprise you. The XYL gave me the OK to order a small kit for Christmas. After the OHR group buy is over, after probably all the NW kits are spoken for, etc.

So, the question is: in the $75.00 bracket - what are the options for 40 meters? I want to build something for the FoxHunts, and enjoyment.

I have built the SW-30 and love it. I have also build a couple of the Pixie 2's from scratch, and various other simple things. I don't have much experience in electronics (guess I wouldn't be able to get all those extra multipliers points for 'true' home brewing, hi hi). If I had the money I think I would go for the Norcal 40a, but oh well.

Does the Explorer come with that nice case and all as seen on Steve's web page? How much is it?

I liked the NN1G rig so much I might lean toward the GM kits but don't know if there's a 40 meter version.

The NW8020 in the 40m version sounds real inviting! Has anyone built one yet?

Come on guys and gals, give me some feed back here, please. Obviously, I chomping at the bit here but don't want to make a mistake or get into something I can't handle. Also, while $75.00 or so may not be that big a deal for most of you, it is to me. I surprised and thankful to be given that to play with right now. I think I could build almost any kit with decent instructions (I'm getting better, just not over confident). Any input greatly appreciated. You can email me direct.

72 es thanks again,
Nick

-.. .   -.- ..-. ..--- .--. ....   --.- .-. .--.   ...-.-   . .
Nicholas J. Franco   Systems/Network Support
RHIC Collider Project   Building 1005 Room 201

Brookhaven National Laboratory UPTON, N.Y. 11973-5000
tel: (516) 282-5467 fax: (516) 282-3674
email: kf2ph@bnl.gov QRP-NE #349 QRP-L #13

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: af389@lafn.org (David Shalita)
Subject: [1049] NPO cap tempco spec confusing
Message-ID: <199512071617.AA29197@lafn.org>

I must be misunderstanding the tempco specs for NPO class 1
ceramic disk capacitors.

Samsung NPO's, class 1 500 volt, shows temperature coeffcients
as plus/minus 0.25 percent per degree C max on a graph.
Centered and zero at 20 deg C, capacity increases for increasing
temperature above 20 deg C, decreases when going below 20 deg C.

Murata shows class 1 500 volt ceramic disk caps with a tempco of
30ppm per deg C max...it may be plus minus 30ppm max, not sure.

I believe 0.25 percent per deg C implies 2500 ppm per deg C change in
capacity which is a huge change compared to 30 ppm per deg C, for a
40 deg temperature shift....assume 100 pf NPO cap.

Are NPO class 1 ceramic disk caps available which have
        a 30 ppm per deg C capacity change
                or
        a 3000 ppm per deg C capacity change

depending upon which vendor's NPO's I purchase? I hope not.

I think I see many examples of this, even in DIGIKEY catalog
         where Panasonic caps are advertised as 0.5ppm per deg C
        and Philips caps are offered at 30 ppm per deg C max.
        Both are class 1 parts.

I am convinced I am misunderstanding the specifications for
tempco and really need some advise.

My application for NPO caps is for a VFO(S) and LO(S) for
my homebrew projects.

Thanks,

--
af389@lafn.org
Dave Shalita,

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: David Fifield <fifield@lan.nsc.com>
Subject: [1071] OHR QRP Wattmeter
Message-ID: <9512071511.AA33013@davef>

--part_ACECB4A5000D3ABA00000003
Content-Type: Text/Plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: Inline

I just built one of the OHR WM-1 QRP Wattmeter Kits. It works GREAT, and was
really simple to calibrate. I don't know how I managed without it before...

--part_ACECB4A5000D3ABA00000003
Content-Type: Text/Plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: Inline

72 de #92

Dave Fifield, KE6ZBZ, QRP-L #92

--part_ACECB4A5000D3ABA00000003--

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: KE3FL@delphi.com
Subject: [1038] Parts and Cores
Message-ID: <01HYISBHA9S096W3XY@delphi.com>

Folks, You can buy an "experimenters Kit" of parts from: 624 Kits
171 Springlake Dr.   Spartanburg SC 29302   P: 803-573-6677
for about $13 plus $3 shipping. There were three different types
of cores supplied, sorry I have no list at present I will look it
up. Call and request a catalog, leave your address. I've asked
if they will sell just the cores, no answer yet.
73 de KE3FL/Phil
:)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "N1OOQ Tom R. @ MRO1 06-Dec-1995 0922" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [967] parts FAQ?
Message-ID: <9512061422.AA12890@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

QRPers,

Seems like we get an awful lot of questions about where to buy pretty
basic stuff like toroids and chips. How about a FAQ? I can throw something
together if nothing exists...

==
Tom Randolph N1OOQ NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL   randolph@est.enet.dec.com
==

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: PAT DOYLE <DOYLEPS@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>
Subject: [978] parts FAQ? -Reply
Message-ID: <s0c57ab4.018@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>

The ARRL Information server has a lot of items of
interest. Send a message to INFO@ARRL.ORG.

For an index of all available files, in the body
of the message type INDEX.TXT. For all the info
you may want on the server type HELP.TXT.

Specifically to what N1OOQ asked, the following
files on the Infoserver are compilations of parts
suppliers, etc.: ADDRESS.TXT and MAILORDR.TXT.

You can include all four requests in the same
message. The requested files are automatically
sent back to the "From" address on the message.
(This server is unmanned. Do not ask it questions
or send it messages, just orders for files). Each
requested file is sent as its own message.

I have found it to be very useful.

Pat, KA2GSL

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: PAT DOYLE <DOYLEPS@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>
Subject: [981] parts FAQ? -Reply -Reply
Message-ID: <s0c5896a.078@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>

I see below that I left one minor detail out of my
last message.

Address your request to INFO@ARRL.ORG and type the
following in the body of the message:

SEND INDEX.TXT
SEND HELP.TXT
SEND ADDRESS.TXT
SEND MAILORDR.TXT

My appologies for the "missing minor detail."

>>> PAT DOYLE <DOYLEPS@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>
12/06/95 11:13am >>>
The ARRL Information server has a lot of items of
interest. Send a message to INFO@ARRL.ORG.

For an index of all available files, in the body
of the message type INDEX.TXT. For all the info
you may want on the server type HELP.TXT.

Specifically to what N1OOQ asked, the following
files on the Infoserver are compilations of parts
suppliers, etc.: ADDRESS.TXT and MAILORDR.TXT.

You can include all four requests in the same
message. The requested files are automatically
sent back to the "From" address on the message.
(This server is unmanned. Do not ask it questions
or send it messages, just orders for files). Each
requested file is sent as its own message.

I have found it to be very useful.

Pat, KA2GSL

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "Mitch, WA4OSR" <fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us>
Subject: [1020] parts needed
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.951206215441.4922B-100000@ns1>

hi... mitch here...

i am in the process of putting a low power 6 meter beacon on here in mobile... i have the kanga kit 6 meter transmitter @ ~200 mw and a pic id'er ready to go... but, the xtal that came with the kanga is *out of band* @ 49999.800 ... i need a xtal for the beacon band... does anyone have a 25.030 mhz to 25.040 mhz xtal in any type holder spare in their junk box???

also, i am going to build the 3 watt amp from the 6 meter transverter that has been in the arrl handbook the past few years to boost the beacon up a tad... *but*, i am having trouble locating the mrf476 transistor used... neither mouser nor circuit specialists stock it... anyone have a source???

thanks...

mitch
wa4osr

         * * * The *HAM OWNER* of The Vibroplex Co., Inc. * * *

 Email: fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us   Felton "Mitch" Mitchell, WA4OSR
 The Vibroplex Co., Inc.
 11 Midtown Park, E.
 Mobile, AL 36606-4141 USA
 334-478-8873 Vibroplex, 334-342-7259 home, 334-476-0465 FAX

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "John T. Croteau" <jt@comsol.org>
Subject: [1011] Power Supply Project
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951206184705.95A-100000@aurora.comsol.org>

I am looking to start home brewing (or following a schematic) project for a 10-AMP 12.8 VDC power supply to run some QRP projects in my shack.

Anyone have any good schematics and good ideas where to start? I want to build one rather than going out and buying an Astron or other commercial unit.

A nice clean output is a neccesity! :-)

Thanks!

73 de KA1VIX
John T. Croteau - Now in '0' Land!

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
Subject: [1009] protection diode revisited
Message-ID: <199512061951.AA19090@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

Gentelmen,
The shunt protection diode in the Explorer II is a 1n4007.
It is rated 1 amp forward current and 1000 volts reverse
voltage. I have not yet installed it, so I can change it
to something else. My opinion is that is should be more like
10 amps, and any voltage above what I will use to drive
the rig. Does anybody have any experience with 1 amp diodes?
Can you tell me how long a 1 amp diode lasts when driven to
(...say...) 2 or 3 or 4 amps?
Charles
ex-W5ISZ

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: scalawag@ids.net
Subject: [961] QRP on 160m
Message-ID: <199512061323.IAA78012@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Gang,
In a recent message Pete, NN9K said in part:
>I used a grain elevator, about 230 feet tall,
>to be my center support. 1/2 dipoles were then
>arranged in a sloper configuration pointing NE,
>SE, SW and NW.

I don't want to whine but could you give us some
ideas for say, maybe, um, something that would
work on a city lot? The city fathers here are
a bit old fashioned. Besides, what else is a grain
ELEVATOR used for??? I fear that the nearest
one to RI really is in Iowa.

But seriously, Pete, congrats on blowing them away
on 160m. I bet you raised some QRO eyebrows!

Gotta run, the Clorox bottle holding up the "far"
end of my little wire needs refilling so that
the antenna doesn't flap in the bushes.

72, Lee W5TEH

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "Paul Weiss" <pweiss@compumedia.com>
Subject: [1026] Radio Shack DSP ???
Message-ID: <m0tNbaK-0006A0C@compumedia.com>

Hello All,

Does anyone have any thoughts on the Radio Shack DSP ? How about
anyother cheap DSP for CW? I am looking for a cheap DSP for my QRP
set up that I take with my on my military trips.

Thanx ....Paul

____
Paul Weiss - KC7FYQ   pweiss@compumedia.com

Ft. Lewis, Wa   URL - http://compumedia.com/~pweiss
____

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: PAT DOYLE <DOYLEPS@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>
Subject: [1064] Radio Shack DSP ??? -Reply
Message-ID: <s0c70220.063@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>

I purchased the RS DSP40 the week before the ARRL CW SS contest. I
thought that SS and CW CQWWDX contests would be good testing ground.
I found it to be a very good investment. Between it and computer
logging, I found the contest stress level to be very low. I was so
impressed, I bought one for my father.

I think RS is discontinuing it. I picked it up for less than $50 and
did not see it in the new catalog.

It is a very good buy for $50.   I think the next cheapest DSP filter
on the market it about $150. It has a 5 watt audio amp and a
built-in speaker, and needs a one amp pwr supply. Make sure you use

a filtered supply, or you will get hum.

>>> Paul Weiss <pweiss@compumedia.com> 12/7/95, 03:24am >>>
Hello All,

Does anyone have any thoughts on the Radio Shack DSP ? How about
anyother cheap DSP for CW? I am looking for a cheap DSP for my QRP
set up that I take with my on my military trips.

Thanx ....Paul
____
Paul Weiss - KC7FYQ   pweiss@compumedia.com

Ft. Lewis, Wa   URL - http://compumedia.com/~pweiss
____

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: ljones@why.net (ljones)
Subject: [1023] Rev Dobbs Address
Message-ID: <19951207063851963.AAF326@dal18.why.net>

Mitch...

   Rev Dobbs' Email: g3rjv@gqrp.demon.co.uk

72/73

dee-it dee-it   (Texas Accent)

Larry n5osg

Larry Jones N5OSG   NorTex   QRP-ARCI   G-QRP   NorCal   MI-QRP   NE-QRP
4028 Random Circle
Garland Tx 75043-3250

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: bfinch@asp.vet.purdue.edu (Robert Finch)
Subject: [964] sent
Message-ID: <9512061506.AA17706@asp.vet.purdue.edu>

i have sent out to everyone who asked a copy of the master
errata for the cascade...with a bonus addition....
if u can't ftp it from here, then let me know, and i'll
email ya a copy......ttfn es 72's
baab,n6cxb

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: V$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com
Subject: [970] SS Log Alert
Message-ID: <01HYHBGV1FXE0016X4@hub.qgraph.com>

Just incase you haven't sent in your logs for SS CW yet...My interpretation
of the rules in the Oct QST makes me think today is the last day to send in
SS CW logs...So if your like me ...you'll be rushing off to thepost office
tonite.

Brian AE9K QRp-L #58

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)
Subject: [989] TNX FER HELP ON ANTENNAS
Message-ID: <9511068182.AA818285412@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

    Gang:

    Many thanks for all the helpful responses to my
    antenna questions. Looks like many of the members
    use, or have used the Loop antennas with good
    results.

    I'll have to make some time and experiment with
    loops and verticals. Maybe my DX totals will start
    to increase.

    72/73 de Dave KK5HA
    QRP-L #25

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Phil Wheeler <pcw@netcom.com>
Subject: [1043] Vanity Calls

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512070708.A5630-0100000@netcom19>

For what it's worth (see next paragraph) I was able to get the
long-awaited FCC Form 610-V yesterday by fax-on-demand from Gettysburg.
It is also available for download as a PCX file from www.fcc.gov (think
that's the right web spot).

But, I cannot find out when Gate 1 opens. Called FCC and they did not
know the form was available nor anything about it. ARRL was no more
helpful. And the form says not to submit before gate is open.
It is also not clear what (if anything) you need to provide to show you
previously held a call (gate 1). I'm after the 7th area call I last held
in 1960, and in those days they required you to send in the original
ticket when you renewed or changed call areas, and make a notation to
that effect in your log.

I apologize that this is not quite QRP. But it may be of interest to ome
qrp-l folks.

Phil (pcw@netcom.com)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: wayneb@on-ramp.ior.com (wayne barnhart)
Subject: [954] vertical ant.
Message-ID: <m0tNDro-000RpHC@on-ramp.ior.com>

  2. I've wanted to try out the DX possibilities of a vertical ant,
       but don't want to shell out big bucks for a GAP or similar, only
       to be disappointed by its performance. Can I just throw up about
       a 33' piece of wire on a vertical support, attach this to the
       center lead of coax, create a radial or counterpoise system

    72/73 de Dave KK5HA
    QRP-L #25

Don't get caught up in the hype about antennas. They all work, some just do
it better is all. I once hung 450 ohm twin lead (shorted out at both ends)
from a tree. Had the thing cut for 5/8 wave on 20. Stuck a couple 1/4 wave
radials on the thing and ran it into a tunner. Worked just fine, until the
wind blew it down. I have a belief that a 32 ft. pipe with a bunch of
radials cut for 80 thru 10 and fed into a tunner is the best antenna for the
buck and this is coming from a ham with a butternut on the roof. Mount the
pole on the ground, mount it in the air, it will just work. Want better
preformance on 40 and 15, phase a coupel of 'em.

What ever you do keep notes. You may want to do it again someday.

73's

Wayne Barnhart WB7WHI   Dirt is good!
Spokane, Wa.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [1014] Vertical Antenna Idea
Message-ID: <951206204106_126995673@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Here's another vertical antenna idea. I have used it in several fixed and portable configurations and it works.

A vertical mast or a wire may be used. The length should be no greater than 5/8 wavelength at the highest frequency you will use. That's about 20 feet at 28 MHz or 41 feet for a 14 MHz top frequency. The antenna will load on higher frequencies, but the radiation pattern will not be optimum for low-angle work as with 1/4 to 5/8 wavelength antennas.

The antenna works efficiently between 1/4 and 5/8 wavelength, but can work on shorter radiator lengths. For example, a 20 foot antenna will covers 11-29 Mhz but will work nicely on 7 and 10 Mhz with a little less efficiency on 7 Mhz and still less efficiency (an s-unit or so) on 4 Mhz.

In some of my setups, I have used an automatic tuner right at the base of the antenna. You do not feed this antenna through a long run of coax and then try to tune it from the shack. In earlier setups I have used a manual tuner- also right at the base of the antenna.

For radials I use eight or so plastic covered wires, each wire the same length as the radiator. Large ground stakes are only suited for VLF antennas and electrical safety, they do not make a good RF groundplane at HF, so use plenty of radials. I mounted one 20 foot antenna atop a 20 foot mast. The auto-tuner was mounted on top of the mast and four radials served as guywires.

In one concealed setup, I used 18 feet of TV mast with a small TV antenna securely connected to the top of the mast. I used eight thin (almost invisible) brown #28 wires for radials. An autotuner was at the base of the antenna. The antenna covered 2.8-30 Mhz continuously.

For antenna masts I have used telescoping sections of aluminum and hose clamps. The base insulator for the mast was a thick plexiglass or lucite

block. The mast was U-bolted to the block which in turn was U-bolted to a support pipe or TV mast.

The antenna is nothing magical, it has a little gain towards it's top frequency range where the length is 1/2 to 5/8 wave. Electrically it is very similar to a groundplane antenna (either elevated or ground-mounted) or your VHF mobile 5/8 whip with the tuning coil at the base.

Tuners: I have used the Icom AH-2 antenna tuner. Other whip and longwire autotuners will work, such as the SGC. Most manual tuners will work at the base of the antenna, but cheap manual "coax-only" tuners may not have enough L/C inside to tune out some reactances.

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [952] Vibroplex Brass Racer "fo" Model
Message-ID: <199512060644.GAA06740@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Someone asked the other day about the new
Brass Racer with a Square Base and it's
availability.

I just got email from Mitch Mitchell, WA4OSR,
President and owner of Vibroplex. He will be
rejoining the group after an absence and he
said that the boxes for shipping should arrive
in a week. I have asked that he announce to
the group the new price.

I have been showing serial #1 off at meetings
and some people have really liked it. I do
not know what the price is and he will let
us know.

He and I call it the "fo" model, but that is
not it's name. Don't know if he has yet come
up with a new name for it.

dit dit
--
Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: ljones@why.net (ljones)
Subject: [951] Wes Hayward Email Address
Message-ID: <19951206050000066.AAA341@dal45.why.net>

Greeting gang...

   I need to contact Wes Hayward. Does anyone know his email address? Send it to me at my main address please. Thanks...

72/73

dee-it dee-it

Larry n5osg
72/73

dee-it dee-it   (Texas Accent)

Larry n5osg

Larry Jones N5OSG   NorTex   QRP-ARCI   G-QRP   NorCal   MI-QRP   NE-QRP
4028 Random Circle
Garland Tx 75043-3250

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: [1073] What is a Ten-Tec AC-1?
Message-ID: <199512072215.OAA11954@netcom9.netcom.com>

Is there such a thing? Was it part of the PM-1 era stuff?

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [1005] Whitebrook Keys
Message-ID: <951206183608_65824174@emout04.mail.aol.com>

I don't know who mentioned about making your own keys.

I have not seen the Whitebrook ones either. I did make
my own straight key using a old relay for contacts and
a few other things from the household junk box. Even
at a low price, there is just something about building
your own keys, antennas, and accessories. If anyone
comes up with a key kit either straight or iambic. I may
be interested. There may not be much labor in assembling
one, but if you supplied the raw materials, there may be some
savings. I know there has to be some machinists out there.
How about it? Am I wrong or not?
My homebrew key works but it won't win a beauty contest.

72 de cameron, kt3a QRP-L #7

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [994] Re: 10m contest
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951206121416.10231B-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Lee,
There is a serious conflict here. 28.885MHz is the 6-meter coordination
frequency!
72, Dave, W6EMD

On Wed, 6 Dec 1995 scalawag@ids.net wrote:

> Gang:
>
> I pulled an old message from the list about QRP freqs.
> (I only save messages that I subconsciously know I'll
> never need.)
>
> Unless I've missed something since then (likely),
> hope see the QRP gang this weekend on:
>
>   CW   SSB
>   28.060   28.885
>   28.110 (Novice)   28.385 (Novice)
>
> See Oct QST p. 130.
> Brief summary: Send RS(T) and State or Province.
> DX sends RS(T) and sequential serial number.
> Remember, you can only operate legally 36 of the
> 48 hours (we could only wish!)
>

> 72 Lee W5TEH
> SCALAWAG@IDS.NET
>
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: N8CQA@aol.com
Subject: [1013] Re: 10m QRP SSB calling freq.
Message-ID: <951206204122_126995915@mail02.mail.aol.com>

Lee - Many groups have adopted 28.335 as ssb calling freq. to include the Novice/Tech.
folks and avoid interference with 6.

72/73 Buck

Buck Switzer, N8CQA, 654 Georgia, Marysville, MI 48040-1243
Home: (810) 364-9640 - Fax: (810) 364-8179 - Work: (810)949-0151
n8cqa@tir.com - am441@detroit.freenet.org - N8CQA@aol.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [995] Re: 160M Contest Antennas
Message-ID: <951206160043.23207dbe@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Ed, you wrote, in part:

> One of the best times I ever had with 160M was when we took a daytime AM
>radio station off the tower and used their stick for a 160 meter antenna. It
>is 330' high, works out to be a 5/8 wave vertical with the usual 120 1/4 wave
>radials. Awesome transmit antenna. Couldn't hear thunder on it, though. It
>is an excellent noise pick-up antenna as well!

Well maybe it couldn't hear thunder, but I'll bet it COULD hear lightning.
I've seen several instances of same.

I was involved in a project where we used a 900 foot grounded tower as a test transmit antenna at 150 KHZ. It was shunt fed with a wire at the top, using the guy wires as top hat loading. When there were nearby lightning storms our tech fled the area because voltage induced from remote lightning hits was

enough to jump several feet from the feed wire to ground! The dc ground at the tower base and guy wires did little to shunt off energy absorbed by the tower structure.

Other times I visited sites where we had installed 300 foot top-loaded towers, with no good ground path excpet through large inductors. A 3/4 inch ball gap at the base of the tower arc'ed frequently from bolts within 10-15 miles. At times we could observe lighting bolts a few miles off and see the induced energy arcing over guy wire insulators 200 deet up in the air! Burned out some network analyzers from static pickup in clear weather, too.

Just imagine what a receiver front end would have to withstand from an antenna that good! No wonder tube receivers were so rugged, they just arc'ed over internally without damage. (Tongue planted firmly in cheek.)

Mark Twain knew all about it. He said" Thunder is good. Thunder is impressive. But lighning does all the work!"

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: John_Foote_at_HDN-BCSE@ccgate.ml.nec.com
Subject: [966] Re: 160M QRP
Message-ID: <9511068182.AA818270717@mvlsmtp.ccgate.ml.nec.com>

> Quick! Tell us what you used for an antenna! 160 m sounds like a hoot. But I've never had a decent enough antenna to get any answers to my CQ's.
>
> de KR4GL
> John Foote

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: KenKD1XS@aol.com
Subject: [973] Re: 160M QRP
Message-ID: <951206104243_126546789@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Larry:

I had a couple of hours to kill Saturday night and thought I would try the 160M contest with QRP. 4 watts into a 100' dipole @25'.

I managed about 12 qso's, all 599 reports :) and I was not really trying,
just hunting and pouncing.

Ken KD1XS

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [947] Re: Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951205185550.3462F-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Jay,

The fact that high-impedance phones put a light load on the audio amp is
THE PROBLEM! The audio chips designed for 4 or 8 Ohms can become unstable
with a light load (read oscillate, motorboat, etc.). A fix that works
quite often is to put a 4-Ohm resistor across the output terminals. That
way, the audio chip is happy and there is still plenty of audio for the
phones. Another common problem in QRP radios is the use of a coupling
capacitor from chip to output that is too small a value. 100uF is a
typical size, but chip manufacturers specify values as high as 2000uF!
Just a few days ago I cured an audio-oscillation problem in a friend's
radio by putting a 470uF cap in parallel with the original 100uF cap.

72, Dave, W6EMD NorCal #339, No QRP-L # (why do I need one?)

On Tue, 5 Dec 1995 JCoote@aol.com wrote:

> In a message dated 95-12-04 15:59:14 EST, dandersn@ix.netcom.com (Duane
> Anderson) writes:
>
> >I know there was some discussion about a week ago on the subject of proper
> >and workable headphones here, but when you get a little older the memory
> >fades a bit (hi hi). Anyway, the question is this:
> >Did someone say the Radio Shack headphones they have for communication work,
> >(mono) is good to use or not? I have a set of stereo headphones and wonder
> >if they will not be as good as other ones. Maybe that is the reason Im
> >having a bit of a hard time hearing a lot of other stations.
> >
> >Anyway, any help would be appreciated on this re-hash of an old subject.
> >
> >72/73,
> >Duane, KJ7HO
> >QRP-L 164

>
> I have used R/S cheapie headphones for QRP and ham work. They are
> lightweight and deliver enough audio. Stereo phones will also work but you
> may have to modify them at the plug or jack so that they are mono (both
> phones work).   I have also seen lightweight "walkman" style headphones which
> fold in the middle for storage.
>
> The main thing is you don't need "Communications Headphones" for ham work.
> Lightweight and cheap phones will also work.   Get what works and is most
> comfortable.
>
> Someone asked about the impedance. Many phones are fifty to a hundred or so
> ohms. Will that work on an eight ohm receiver? Yes, and it works out
> nicely. With the speaker on at a room-filling level, you don't want to put
> on the phones and have your ears blown off. The higher impedance is a
> lighter load for the audio amp and a lower volume. Impedance matching
> purists should purchase an audio SWR meter and audio transmatch if they are
> concerned ;-)
>
> High fidelity does not matter. The SSB audio band is 200-2200 Hz and CW (for
> most of us) is 400-900 Hz. What does matter is that the phones do not
> exhibit ringing or resonance on CW notes.
>
> At five to fifteen dollars, we can afford to experiment with cheapie phones,
> or replace them if someone's QRO behind sits on them.
>
> 73, Jay
> WB6AAM
>
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Gary Newberry <garyn@tir.com>
Subject: [957] Re: Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <9512060851.AA20493@sun>

Snip

>>
>> I have used R/S cheapie headphones for QRP and ham work. They are
>> lightweight and deliver enough audio. Stereo phones will also work but you
>> may have to modify them at the plug or jack so that they are mono (both
>> phones work).   I have also seen lightweight "walkman" style headphones which
>> fold in the middle for storage.

Snip

>> 73, Jay
>> WB6AAM

I just bought some rather comfortable Stereo headphones on sale at R/S , and I read
in the little brochure that came with the headphones that R/S also sells a stereo to
mono adapter so you might want to try that out before you snip off the plug.

(I read the brochure right after I had snipped off the stereo plug and soldered on a
mono plug :(... I could have used it with my walkman or stereo too)

Yeah, I know , I can re-solder a stereo plug back on and get the adapter :)

73 Gary WB8POK

--
garyn@tir.com <Gary Newberry>
Amateur Radio WB8POK
Sometimes you're the windshield, Sometimes you're the bug !

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: [971] Re: Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <35548.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>

 I read in the little brochure that came with the headphones that R/S also sells a stereo to mono adapter so you might want to try that out before you snip off the plug.

I also have two pair of the R/S headphones and both work fine. However, I have never found an adapter that works without being intermittant. I use my headphones mostly with a Drake R4C that has a 1/4" output jack and I must have bought half a dozen adapters, all have become intermittant in only a few days. I'm ready to CUT the 1/8" plug off and put on a 1/4". Any suggestions before I do it? 72/73 Jim K4CGY qrp-l #72

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [1002] Re: Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <199512062236.WAA07880@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Jim, K4CGY, is right. R/S sells two critters that you should have.

One is a 1/4" mono to 1/4" stereo plug. The other is a 1/4" stereo to 1/8" stereo plug. Then you don't have to cut anything. About a 4-$5 investment in the future.

dit dit
--
Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: W3HMS@aol.com
Subject: [1084] Re: Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <951207174511_47541880@emout05.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-06 18:14:50 EST, adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams) writes:

>adams@sgi.com

Agree. I have about al the headphone adapters RS sells and now I can adapt anything to anything with good results. I do suggest you label the female end so you know if you go from mono or stereo to what is evident on the plug otherwise you risk creating a new problem of adaptation. 73, John

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: jgoemans@facstaff.wisc.edu (Jane Goemans)
Subject: [1078] re: boxes for kits
Message-ID: <199512072323.RAA14963@audumla.students.wisc.edu>

Some of you may not know, that Ten Tec sells a large line of cases for projects. I don't mean the "T-kit" boxes, but they make their own cases, and a complete line of neat little cabinets. Call and ask them for a brochure ! Some items are aluminum, either bare or painted, vinyl-clad covers, some are painted steel, with internal subchassis and removable front and back panels. These make a project look great !!

                    72 Paul WA9PWP
Paul Goemans WA9PWP
4326 Clover Court Madison, WI 53711-4805
608-274-5143   jgoemans@facstaff.wisc.edu

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca (Jim Cummings)
Subject: [963] Re: built in balun.
Message-ID: <9512061356.AA22534@clark.dgim.doc.ca>

> the other day i found the 4:1balun for qrp on the list.
> i use a 300 ohm twin lead fed multiband at home (indoors)
> with a tuner. is there any reason i cant efectivly put the
> balun in my swl 4030 and use a reasonant ant fed with 300
> ohm? the stuff can be had cheap, light and is low loss.
> barry
> wb1edi
>
>
>

The only way that you can proceed to do as you propose is if the antenna has an impedance of 300 ohm at the frequency of operation.

 ====================================
              Jim Cummings
   eMail:jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca
  packet:VE3XJ@VE3JF.#EONT.ON.CA.NOAM
      73 and live better digitally
       DON'T GET TOO EXCITED...
  because remember, today is the first
     day of the rest of your life.
 ====================================

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: [972] RE: built in balun.
Message-ID: <36517.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>

 is there any reason i cant efectivly put the
> balun in my swl 4030 and use a reasonant ant fed with 300
> ohm? the stuff can be had cheap, light and is low loss.
> barry
> wb1edi
>
A resonant 40 or 30 meter or what-have-you FOLDED DIPOLE fed with 300 line

(open or twin-lead) with the balun in the rig (any rig) is the simplest and cheapest solution and will work just fine. 72/73 Jim K4CGY QRP-L # 72

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [1059] Re: digest
Message-ID: <95Dec7.135838est.14493-2+69@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

> Perhaps it is my screwy server again but for digest 201, I got
> nothing past message #951. And that digest went to message #1017.
> So I guess I missed a lot.
>
> I went back to the server and asked for the digest again. I got the
> same stuff---to #951.

Tim,

  It's all Larry's fault :-) Appears his mailer sends a control-Z at the end of his mail. That's end-of-file on DOS machines, no? I'll remove any incoming control-Z from now on. By the time you read this the Digest back issues in the archives should be fixed. Please try again and let me know if you have any trouble.

73
Jim N3VXI

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: David Speegle <dspeegle@dialin.ind.net>
Subject: [1017] Re: email add. for rev. dobbs
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951206210352.21421B-100000@dialin.ind.net>

g3rjv@gqrp.demon.co.uk

==
| David Speegle   Email Alias: David.Speegle@dialin.ind.net
|
|
| 311 S West St.
|
| Argos, IN   46511
| Phone: 219.546.3848   FAX:
==

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [950] Re: Feedline losses
Message-ID: <199512060534.WAA02632@usr5.primenet.com>

At 10:42 PM 12/5/95 EST, JIM HALL wrote:
>Regarding coax feedline:
>I've noticed several comments lately about feedline loss.
>Is there any appreciable difference in using RG-174/U
>instead of RG-8X on the HF bands?
>Jim Hall, ke4agt
>jimrhalljr@delphi.com
>
>
Jim:

The cable attenuation in dB per hundred feet of RG8 is abt 0.18, and for RG-174 about 1.4. As long as the line is operated as a matched line, it's not a real problem at HF. Many qrp'ers use 174 because of it's light weight for backpacking.

72, de Roger

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: RHILTO@acxiom.com
Subject: [982] Re: Galileo Probe Battery Info
Message-ID: <ee4ae360@acxiom.com>

>ObQRP: What are they gonna do with all those neat Lithium
>batteries after the probe launch? A battery pack that only
>loses 5% of its power after 6 years of shelf life would be ideal
>for my QRP operating habits!

>Paul NA5N (QRP-L #38)

Paul: According to my sources, you're welcome to the remaining batteries. Or is that "battery remains"? And as long as you're "out there", bring back one of those high gain antennas.

We'll expect you back sometime during the next sunspot cycle.

Bob ki5ez (qrp-L #244, qrp-qlf #1)
duh - duh.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: ddonald@vikings.onecomm.com (Dave Donaldson)
Subject: [996] Re: Galileo Probe Battery Info

>
>
> >ObQRP: What are they gonna do with all those neat Lithium
> >batteries after the probe launch? A battery pack that only
> >loses 5% of its power after 6 years of shelf life would be ideal
> >for my QRP operating habits!
>
> >Paul NA5N (QRP-L #38)
>
>
> Paul: According to my sources, you're welcome to the remaining
> batteries. Or is that "battery remains"? And as long as you're
> "out there", bring back one of those high gain antennas.
>
> We'll expect you back sometime during the next sunspot cycle.
>
>
> Bob ki5ez (qrp-L #244, qrp-qlf #1)
> duh - duh.
>
>

I think that there was a documentary about someone going Jupiter to recover
batteries. There is acutal footage of him landing there, I think it is call 2001
a Space Odyssey :>).

Dave, WB7DRU

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: mjsilva@ix.netcom.com (michael silva)
Subject: [1022] Re: Generating interest in homebrewing
Message-ID: <199512070603.WAA20623@ix4.ix.netcom.com>

Bill,

I think you've come up with a fine idea. Why not also build a simple rock-bound transmitter at the same time, and put the entire station on the air at the end of the meeting. The best arrangement, considering the poor antenna you're likely to be able to set up and the need for quick results, might be to have an assistant already lined up whom you can QSO with. Good luck and let us know how it goes.

73,
Mike, KK6GM

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: W3HMS@aol.com
Subject: [1079] Re: Generating interest in homebrewing
Message-ID: <951207174525_47542200@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Bill....I would recommend a super simple version of the Neophyte with the osc using an 3579 xtal on the osc part of the 602. I saw this demo'd at our QRP club and was amazed that it worked. No, you can't tune it but guys can hear the CW and see the few parts. Good luck with a good idea. 73, John W3HMS

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: davida@utw.com (David A McPhie)
Subject: [1044] Re: Got my number...finally!
Message-ID: <199512071531.IAA08180@stellar.comnet.com>

At 05:59 PM 12/5/95 EST, Jim Lowman wrote:
>I'm not exactly sure what I was doing wrong, but several requests for a
>QRP-L number came back with errors.
>
>What a difference a week makes. At the time I first requested a number,
>there were only five members with numbers. Instead of being #6, I am now
>#248. Oh, well...
>It's a nice sequence of powers of two, if nothing else. :-}
>
>73 de KF6CR - Jim
>
>JIM, I GOT THE NEW CHIP FROM INDEX LABS FOR YOUR QRP PLUS, WHATS YOUR ADDRESS AND ILL SEND IT TO U? DAVE WA7YCA
>
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>
Subject: [1031] Re: HB vs Kit
Message-ID: <199512071357.IAA58501@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>   I just had to add my two pesos worth. This is my definition of HB. It is
>something that is constructed from scratch, i.e. not a kit. Kits are fine,
>but to me a kit is like baking a cake from a box mix.

Yes, kits make it easier. Cake mixes make it easier. A cake mix in the hands of someone who doesn't know how to bake is just as much a disaster as scratch ingredients in that same person's hands. The key to making a cake isn't in the box.

There is a false assumption that building a kit is just soldering a bunch of parts to a board. And yet, it's pretty clear to me (probably because I'm one of these smarmy kit builders) that if you don't understand the principles of radio you stand a small chance of getting the kit to work.

There's an equally false assumption that collecting your own parts and tack-soldering them together means you must be a radio god. It's not true, and the rate of success for either method when used by an unqualified person is about the same.

I've met a Real Homebrewer who allows kits as long as the person building it makes a "substantive" change to the electrical design. This particular Real Homebrewer had just finished building a kit where he had changed out a couple of parts.

So let's define "scratch." I know, you've seen postings from people who say it means you have to smelt your own metals and ion-implant your own IC's. Most people who consider themselves "Real Homebrewers" (to distinguish themselves from those animals who use kits) pass that off as the raving self-justifications of the kit-builders. "After all," they say, "who could do that?"

When asked to draw the line most Real Homebrewers essentially say "Real Homebrewers do what I do." If they don't have a metal shop, then buying a cabinet is OK. If they don't have a PC board shop, then it's OK to buy a board as long as they stuff it with parts that they themselves have procured. Naturally, none of them have IC foundaries at home, so buying a mixer chip is OK.

I have neve yet met a person who said Real Homebrewers do something that

they themselves cannot do. They never say, "Gee, I'd love to be a Real Homebrewer, but all my equipment is stinking kits because I don't bend my own metal."

I guess at bottom I don't understand the compulsion to take a small group (people who build their own radios) and subdivide it. Why not pull people together? Why not say anyone who cares enough to build any part of a station is one of "us" --a homebrewer?

The fact that you can't draw a real line to differentiate one from another says (to me) that the real differentiator is caring. People who build from scratch (whatever that is) are afraid people who put less effort into it don't care as much and so aren't Real Homebrewers -- or at least as Real as they themselves are. And so they start this divisive Real Homebrewer garbage. The shame is that by so doing they confine themselves to a tiny partition of the general population (which is small enough as it is.) If they took the opposite view, assumed the other guy was just as caring as they, then they'd expand their world and instead of being surrounded by "them" they'd be surrounded by friends.

Feh! Too much philosophy for a Thursday.

>>>==>PStJTT

==========
Patrick Taber   Email: ptaber@logicraft.com
Principal Software Engineer   Phone: (603) 880-0300
Logicraft Information Services   Fax: (603) 880-7229
22 Cotton Road   QRP-L: 215 (was hoping for 666)
Nashua N.H. 03063   Also known as: KC1TD

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "N1OOQ Tom R. @ MRO1 07-Dec-1995 1006" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [1042] re: HB vs kit
Message-ID: <9512071519.AA22144@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

I'm with KC1TD on this... if you soldered it together and got it to work, it's homebrew. If someone else did, it's not. Any further distinction is much ado about nothing. All a kit does is give you all the parts in a bag, rather than making you hunt through bins at a flea market for the same parts.

Even non-kit homebrew could have dozens of flavors. For instance, what if you picked a circuit out of a book and wired it up using parts you scrounged yourself? Homebrew or no? This is essentially what I'm doing to

build a 30m/40m rcvr and matching transmitter, with a few design changes
to make them work on two bands. Rcvr is out of QRP Notebook, TX is out of
Solid State Design.

Less than 5W: QRP   Greater than 5W: QRO   No other factors are relevant.
You built it: homebrew   You didn't: not   "   "   "   "   "

==
Tom Randolph N1OOQ NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL   randolph@est.enet.dec.com
==

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [945] Re: Holiday Spirits Sprint
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951205195755.11496C-100000@ume>

QRP ARCI CONTEST   page 1
of 1

Callsign: VE6GK   Exchange: VE6GK RST
AB nr

date mm/dd/yyyy	band	UTC time	callsign	sent rst	sent QTH	sent nr	received rst	received QTH	received nr
12/03/1995	20CW	2033	KB0R	559	AB	00001	539	MN	6951
12/03/1995	20CW	2048	AE9F	559	AB	00002	559	CA	3592
12/03/1995	20CW	2055	WA0RPI	559	AB	00003	599	MN	6846
12/03/1995	20CW	2135	N8FU	559	AB	00004	599	OH	1215
12/03/1995	20CW	2145	N8MFD	559	AB	00005	549	AZ	8492
12/03/1995	40CW	2336	WX7R	559	AB	00006	579	OR	6324

na9.12   TOTALS THIS PAGE   QSOs: 6   MULTs: 5

Class all band, 1 watt.

Therefore its 250 points plus 5000 points for home brewing....sure glad I
build that rig last year!

Well, this was a real challenge for me!
My monobander died and it took me a half hour to figure out that the
sierra was putting 0.95 watts into an swr of greater than 5:1.
Switched to my inverted vee. Was only able to contact one in four of
stations I heard and called.....no pileup, the just did not hear me?
Not sure what happened since I worked the world literally in CQ WW CW
test with 5 watts on 20 and 40 recently.

Rig: Sierra at 0.95 watts. Antenna open wire fed inverted vee at 60 feet.
Keyer by INTEL 486dx2, log by NA....I had room for 16,892 q's at end of
test so hardware was working ok! ;-)
I think I should get bonus points for being north of the 50th parallel!

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)   *   VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor   *   NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary * "Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: V$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com
Subject: [1034] Re: Homebrew vs kits
Message-ID: <01HYIPFWULMQ00ZRXW@hub.qgraph.com>

Randy NZ4I writes:
   Why don't we establish a rule that when a ham who designed his/her own
equipment sends HB it means "home brewed" and a ham who built his/her
equipment from a kit sends HB to mean "home built." Get my point?? :-)

I think thats the solution Randy...If you follow the Homebrewers creed as
stated by many on the new...even if you see a schematic in the handbook and
build a rig form that...your not home brewed because you didn't design it.

That includes copying the PCB pattern or buying a board from a vendor. Thats
no different than buying a customized bag of parts (kit?) that may be
available.

Brian AE9K

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>
Subject: [1041] Re: Homebrew vs Kits
Message-ID: <199512071510.KAA53821@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>
>Try building a Sierra by buying the boards, and buying the parts by your self.
>You exclusive kit builders would learn a lot. Stop being satisfied with
connect
>the dots! transition !!
>

But do I want to learn what you're trying to teach? do I want to join the ranks of the arrogant and contemptuous?

If I bought a Sierra board, spent an extra 60 days gathering pieces and paid 50% more for the parts and got it working, who's to say the next arrogant *#)&^ down the street won't say it isn't Homebrew since I bought the board and by implication used someone else's proven design?

>>>==>PStJTT

==========
Patrick Taber
Principal Software Engineer
Logicraft Information Services
22 Cotton Road
Nashua N.H. 03063

Email: ptaber@logicraft.com
Phone: (603) 880-0300
Fax: (603) 880-7229
QRP-L: 215 (was hoping for 666)
Also known as: KC1TD

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Harry_Chase@smtpgwy.windata.com (Harry Chase)
Subject: [1054] Re: Homebrew vs Kits
Message-ID: <9511078183.AA818366659@smtpgwy.windata.com>

This whole issue is beginning to sound like the rover scoring squabble that raged some time ago on the VHF reflector (anyone here subscribed to that will know what I'm talking about). IMO, the way to resolve this is simple -- whether you buy, build kits, or homebrew completely (even to the smelting of the metals:-)) , are you enjoying what you are doing? If so, then it is probably the right thing here.

It is easy to feel that you have "reached a higher level" than the average ham when you can design and build all your own stuff; but I wonder how much operating gets done? or club activity, etc.? (my own experience here-- homebrewing takes *time*; it has to be a labor of love, and it will take time away from other aspects of the hobby - i.e., you have choices to make. and none of them are "right or wrong", if they work out for your enjoyment of the hobby.)

BTW, I do "total" homebrewing (except for the smelting:-) , I build kits, AND I even use (ulp!) good old store-bought gear. Whatever will accomplish what I am trying to do at the time. Sometimes I even manage to get on the air!

Harry
WA1VVH

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>
Subject: [990] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <199512062020.PAA42952@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>
>Hmmm....I've been thinking lately about the fairness of the multiplier or
>extra points we get for "homebrew" in our contests. I think this will open
>another can of worms, but what the heck....

Gee, people accused me of grave-robbing for asking about qrp and ERP .vs.
input power....

I've been hanging around contesting for a while and one thing that impresses
me is that everyone has a suggestion. West Coast operators, for example,
often write proposals for hadicapping East Coast stations in DX contests.
They're not self-serving, just trying to level the playing field. East Coast
stations have been known to send in scholarly papers exploring new ways of
scoring the Sweepstakes that would remove that annoying bias toward people
who have multipliers on both sides of their QTH rather than a large, empty
stretch of ocean to the right. Many altruistic SSB ops believe in their
hearts that CW contacts on Field Day shouldn't get two points each.

The first question a contest designer would ask is "what problem is being
solved?" Have undeserving kit-builders been beating deserving "Real
Homebrewers" in the contests? What's the benefit to having Real Homebrewers
lose by a few less points than usual? Why should a contest be point-weighted
based on how the radio was built in the first place? If you want to be
admired for building a radio publish an article in the magazines. Given the
effort of becomming a Real Homebrewer, a few more points in a contest is not
a strong motivator.

Contests are about operating. Points handicaps should be offered for those
things that make operating more chanllenging. Low power makes operating more
challenging. Working without a PacketCluster to do your spots is more
challenging. Building the radio doesn't belong in the point structure,
though if it must be there, there is no difference between Real Homebrewers
and kit-builders.

>>>==>PStJTT

==
Patrick Taber   Email: ptaber@logicraft.com
Principal Software Engineer   Phone: (603) 880-0300
Logicraft Information Services   Fax: (603) 880-7229

22 Cotton Road
Nashua N.H. 03063

QRP-L: 215 (was hoping for 666)
Also known as: KC1TD

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [991] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951206150131.29469B-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Wed, 6 Dec 1995, David Fifield wrote:

> I think there should be two (or more?) LEVELS of homebrew. To me, there is a
> large difference between making a kit and building up your "own" gear.

HAhahahahahaHAHahhaHAHAhAHahaHahahaH! Ohhhh MAN! I *LOVE* this list.

This topic has popped up about five times since *I've* been on the qrp-l,
and God (or Chuck) only knows how many times before that.

Yes, I fully agree and also think that there should be *several* grades
for homebrewers, not to belittle you RF E.E. types that can whip up somthing
outta a circuit handbook or designer notes...BUT, don't you agree that
the physicist who does ion implantation to fabricate there own solid state
devices and integrated circuits should deserve a little more credit?

Sure you do.

And whatabout those that can mine iron ore and take it home to their
blast furnace to smelt sheat metal for a nice chassis?

It's time for REAL HOMEBREWERS to STAND UP and be counted!!!

73 =paul= wb8zjl

p.s. Extra credit will be deducted for those NOT using homebrew yagis

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: scicior@cp.mnet.uswest.com (Steve Ciciora)
Subject: [993] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <9512062018.AA01093@sp5-316.nts.uswest.com>

I think that mabe the approach should be more like not docking for kit built, but 'extra credit' for homebrew (no kit). Yes, having an all home _built_ rig is quite a status symbol, and I'm hoping to someday have an all home _brew_ ed rig to brag about.

-Steven Ciciora

> Hmmm....I've been thinking lately about the fairness of the multiplier or
> extra points we get for "homebrew" in our contests. I think this will open
> another can of worms, but what the heck....
>
> I think there should be two (or more?) LEVELS of homebrew. To me, there is a
> large difference between making a kit and building up your "own" gear.
>
> Kits generally come with complete sets of instructions which enable it to be
> built with no "real" knowledge of the circuitry (Careful here, I didn't say
> that everyone who builds kits doesn't know anything about the circuitry or
> principles involved, just that they don't NEED to know this stuff). It's
> possible to make a kit, turn it on, tweak it as per the instructions and then
> claim your extra points - is this really what the contest organizers had in
> mind for "homebrew"?
>
> IMHO, sure, you should get more points for making a kit up and getting it to
> work, this in itself is a great achievment, but I think you should get MORE
> points if:
>
>   - It was your own design
>   - If you plagerized someone elses design or modified it
>   - You lay out and etch your own PCBs or made it ugly style or whatever
>   - You did all the metal/panel work yourself
>   - There is some technical/constructional uniqueness in the finished item
>
> I sure don't want to denegrate the wonderful work that lots of *YOU* are doing
> - I think it's GREAT that so many people are getting on the air with something
> they built up themselves, but don't you think it would be fairer to those
> (few?) who go one step further and spend many, many more hours building their
> "real" homebrew stuff to give them the extra extra points? It would also
> provide a real incentive for even more homebrewing....which can only be a good
> thing, right?
>
> --part_ACEB30AD0003354E00000002
> Content-Type: Text/Plain; charset=US-ASCII
> Content-Disposition: Inline
>
> 72 de #92
>
> Dave Fifield, KE6ZBZ, QRP-L #92
>

> --part_ACEB30AD0003354E00000002--
>
>
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: David Fifield <fifield@lan.nsc.com>
Subject: [997] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <9512061508.AA47384@davef>

--part_ACEB627F000EE9DC00000008
Content-Type: Text/Plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: Inline

Sri if this has been thrashed b4.

I am actually not a contester myself, but the fairness (or not) of it all was what struck me.

Upon reconsideration, I would now take the view (expressed elsewhere too) that contests are about operating, not building, and that the playing field should be leveled - same points no matter what gear you used.

The real reward from doing true homebrew is of course the thrill of making it work and getting contacts with it.

--part_ACEB627F000EE9DC00000008
Content-Type: Text/Plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: Inline

72 de #92

Dave Fifield, KE6ZBZ, QRP-L #92

--part_ACEB627F000EE9DC00000008--

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "John A. Evans" <jaevans@cos.cst.titan.com>
Subject: [998] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <199512062212.RAA28228@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

> Upon reconsideration, I would now take the view (expressed elsewhere too) that
> contests are about operating, not building, and that the playing field should
> be leveled - same points no matter what gear you used.
>
> The real reward from doing true homebrew is of course the thrill of making it
> work and getting contacts with it.

Plus, the act of homebrew AND building should help one better understand the
goings-on under the hood, and thus should result in better operating
performance. This should result in that extra edge.

I think the extra points may provide incentive to get more folks into the
act of building/homebrewing (gee, sounds like incentive licensing).

72, n3qoo QRP-L #219
john

John A. Evans   Chief System Administrator
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Fax: (719) 528-1275   1115 Elkton Dr, Suite 200
email: jaevans@cos.cst.titan.com Colorado Springs, CO 80907-3535

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: V$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com
Subject: [1000] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <01HYHRV2MXQQ004E2F@hub.qgraph.com>

I think a kit should be considered home brew if after it doesn't work
when initially completed the builder must troubleshoot the rig to get it
to work properly. In which case I have several homebrew rigs in the shack.

Brian AE9K

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [1004] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <951206183443_46670087@emout04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-06 17:30:45 EST, you write:

>I think a kit should be considered home brew if after it doesn't work

>when initially completed the builder must troubleshoot the rig to get it
>to work properly. In which case I have several homebrew rigs in the shack.
>
>Brian AE9K
>
>

I like that logic, Brian. You could get, say 1000 points for using a kit.
 2000 points for using a kit that did not work and had to be fixed (or a
completely homebrew rig). And 5000 points for using a kit or homebrew rig
that still does not work.

Ed

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@tir.com>
Subject: [1010] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <9512070037.AB10897@sun>

At 13:33 12/06/95 EST, Dave Fifield wrote, in part:
>
>Hmmm....I've been thinking lately about the fairness of the multiplier or
>extra points we get for "homebrew" in our contests.
>.....................
>IMHO, sure, you should get more points for making a kit up and getting it to
>work, this in itself is a great achievment, but I think you should get MORE
>points if:
>
>   - It was your own design
>   - If you plagerized someone elses design or modified it
>   - You lay out and etch your own PCBs or made it ugly style or whatever
>   - You did all the metal/panel work yourself
>   - There is some technical/constructional uniqueness in the finished item
>.....................
>

Ok....Maybe I'd buy that if:
 the contest entrant who uses a homebrew radio they built gets 12% added.
 the contest entrant who uses a kit radio they built gets 9% added.
 the contest entrant who purchases a homebrew radio gets 6% added.
 the contest entrant who purchases a kit radio gets 3% added.
 the contest entrant who uses a commercial QRP radio gets their score.
 the contest entrant who uses a commercial QRO radio gets 3% subtracted,
even   though it's run at 5 watts or less.

Next we're going to get into handicaps for location, antenna gain, weight of radiating element(s), number of parasitic elements, size of property, use of a computer to log, ... the list could go on for a long time, but I gotta quit for now....The wagon is pulling up and they're going to take me back to the "home".

*/
*/ Hank Kohl K8DD k8dd@tir.com
*/ MI-QRP QRP-ARCI G-QRP NorCal
*/ ARRL/LM QCWA/LM QCAO/LM
*/

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Phil Wheeler <pcw@netcom.com>
Subject: [1015] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512061752.A17280-0100000@netcom15>

I'm glad to have this groundrule in mind as I start building my NC-40a; now I know how to maximize my multiplier!

Phil (pcw@netcom.com)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: ruswhite@netwest.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [1016] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <199512070218.TAA09482@saguaro.netwest.com>

Try this argument on for size.

The original object for the rules may have been to create an equality (level the playing field) between the different radios used. It seems to me that a HB rig is pretty equal to a kit built rig. On the other hand, there are people who use high dollar QRO rigs with a high degree of sophistication who can back the power down to QRP levels to operate.

To me, when I look at it this way, there is much more similarity then difference when comparing HB and kit built.

73, Russ

|----------|

| |
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG) QRP-ARCI   NORCAL   NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ |
| QRP-L #179 |

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [1018] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.951206191442.28734A-100000@vortex>

On Wed, 6 Dec 1995 N5EM@aol.com wrote:

> In a message dated 95-12-06 17:30:45 EST, you write:
>
> >I think a kit should be considered home brew if after it doesn't work
> >when initially completed the builder must troubleshoot the rig to get it
> >to work properly. In which case I have several homebrew rigs in the shack.
> >
> >Brian AE9K
> >
> >
>
> I like that logic, Brian. You could get, say 1000 points for using a kit.
> 2000 points for using a kit that did not work and had to be fixed (or a
> completely homebrew rig). And 5000 points for using a kit or homebrew rig
> that still does not work.
>
> Ed
>

Lets see..... How about 1,000 points for each contact that you can't
make with a kit rig that still isn't working?

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
...ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Sun Valley, Nevada....
...QRP-L #17....ARRL....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: bmitchel@cba.kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [1029] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <9512071246.AA09832@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

Wow, I left the list , except for digest version, for about 6 months, come back and here is the topic we flamed about a couple years ago.

Bottom line I figure..

1. There are a lot more homebrewers than people think (per the kit N.E. homebrew def). (We never called heathkits homebrew!)
2. Nothing's wrong with building a kit.
3. An on the air contest is to see how many points you get by making contacts.
4. We'll never agree on this topic.

5. OBVIOUSLY Real Homebrewers have a need here to feel important!
And rightfully so. It's easy on this forum for a bunch of people to get excited about a kit, or even something as trivial as a microphone, because there is something in common to share. Homebrewers don't have it that easy. The only common ground is design ideas.

I suggested a contest for homebrewers, and send in you pictures to get scanned , put the pictures on the net etc.
but didn't have the time. I think someone offered
to scan the pictures at the time.. Something like this would help to make people that really homebrew, but not just build kits, feel good about their accomplishments, and delineate themselves from the norm. I'm not saying that homebrewing is better, but it certainly is a noteworthy accomplishment that typically gets little to no reckognition on this list. Don't think so? Next time a new design comes out, instead of buying the kit, buy the board, and find the parts. You'll find out how tolerant the original design was real quick, an probably learn about 100 times more to boot! This society of ours has driven us to bell curves in school that allow Johnny to graduate from High School and not read.
I dissagree with this in general, and ;
I take the stand that NO, KITS ARE NOT NOR WILL THEY EVER BE HOMEBREW, NO MATTER HOW MANY PEOPLE YOU GET TO FLAME ME ON THIS MATTER.
Once again, I have no time to facilitate a contest,
just stirring the pot again for the 100th time., and the porrige is getting very thick... wow I'm starting to sound like Nils! :-)

Now back to life.

73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: pelt@vt.edu (Randy Pelt)
Subject: [1030] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <199512071337.IAA07893@quackerjack.cc.vt.edu>

It seems to me what we are talking about here is "home brew" vs "home built."

Why don't we establish a rule that when a ham who designed his/her own
equipment sends HB it means "home brewed" and a ham who built his/her
equipment from a kit sends HB to mean "home built." Get my point?? :-)

Randy Pelt
nz4i
pelt@vt.edu

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [1069] Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
Message-ID: <199512072048.PAA16615@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

>To: pelt@vt.edu
>From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
>Subject: Re: Homebrew VS. Kits
>
>>It seems to me what we are talking about here is "home brew" vs "home built."
>>
>>Why don't we establish a rule that when a ham who designed his/her own
>>equipment sends HB it means "home brewed" and a ham who built his/her
>>equipment from a kit sends HB to mean "home built." Get my point?? :-)
>
>>Randy Pelt
>>nz4i
>>pelt@vt.edu

>
>Hello Gang,
>
>I shot archery competetively before I got into ham radio. This was mainly
>3D shooting. This means shooting at life size 3 dimentional animal
>targets through the woods course at unknown distances. One shot per
>target. This seems fairly strait forward,doesn't it? But let me tell you, I
have never seen such a bunch of argumenttative people in my life, as these
>folks.
>There was the "Using sights vs instinct shooting argument".
>Some used solid wooden bows and arrows, and wore buck skin clothes.
>Then there was the compound bow,(a pulley and cable contraption to get
>more speed into the arrow flight),vs the recurve. Each sub group wanted
>a special class to shoot in. They got it, however there were just so many
>prizes to go around and the each group got lesser prizes.
>
>How did the shoots turn out? Well after a lot of haggling, things did
>smooth out. The guys with the sights and compound bows always had the
>highest score.The "Primative" shooters in the coon skin caps always got
>the lowest score. Mostly everybody was happy becaue they were enjoying
>their sport in their own way.
>
>Folks, there are more than enough "Anti-ham ,anti-anythings" out there
>to go around. "If we don't all hang together, than we shall all hang
seperatly", goes the quote from a revolutionary war guy,I forget just who
>said it, but it is still true today.
>
>Let's be inclusionary rather than be exclusionary. There is room here
>for all.
>
>Epilog: I use my archery skill today to put up antennas.
>
>
>
>
>
de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
          QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)
Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
 S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [1089] Re: Hotel antennas
Message-ID: <951207201654_127810987@mail04.mail.aol.com>

This hotel antenna may be of interest:

For a special operation requiring the use of HF between fixed and mobile stations in a 300 mile radius we used this antenna:

I built a mast which extends to 12 - 15 feet from telescoping aluminum tubing. The tubing was U-bolted to a thick plastic plate or block which served as a base insulator.
The mast was not too cumbersome, since the telescoping sections were four feet long and could fit in some bags and suitcases.

While this setup worked well with an automatic tuner and the mast sticking out from a highrise hotel balcony, we needed better coverage on the lower HF and MF bands for our needs. I added approximately 75 feet of thin gray insulated wire to the tip of the mast, making the antenna a random wire. The wire was weighted enough on the end to keep it from blowing in the wind. The mast helps to get the wire out away from the building for more efficiency, and also keeps troglodytes on lower floors from grabbing the wire to gnaw on it.

The mast was tilted up at 20 degrees, like a fishing pole to give it strength and because of mounting constraints in the balcony wall.

The counterpoise was two insulated #12 wires, 25 feet long each, zigazgged around the balcony.

An Icom AH-2 autotuner was used right at the base of the antenna. Other auto and manual tuners will work with this antenna but must be at the antenna base, do not feed the antenna through coax with the tuner in the shack.

Our antenna system covered 1.6-30 MHz continuously. It outperformed mobile whips used from similar balconies. The length of the antenna wire is not critical but might be varied to provide higher radiation angles for the lower bands (several wavelengths).

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: carp@gpspc_rsc.comsys.rockwell.com
Subject: [1056] Re: MaciIntosh Logging Programs
Message-ID:
<Pine.LNX.3.91.951207114833.20322G-100000@gpspc_rsc.comsys.rockwell.com>

On Thu, 7 Dec 1995, Gary R. Hanson wrote:

> Hey Gang,
>
> Having done a preliminary search through the ftp sites, I didn't see much
> in the way of computer logging programs for Macintosh computers.

Did you find MacLogger, Contest Duper, and HamLog?

> Did I
> miss some obvious ones or is the *obvious* conclusion...they don't
> exist. I've been a Mac convert since the 128k Mac toys, so don't even
> suggest that I buy a PC.
>

kc5ksh (Scott Carpenter)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: H Smith <hbs@crl.com>
Subject: [977] Re: Monday Fox Rpt
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951206072041.15647C-100000@crl12.crl.com>

On Wed, 6 Dec 1995, Aa4xx wrote:
> call area (W-1 land). Special congratulations go to Henry,
> NA5K/M, who held his own with the rest of 5-land.

Paul,

Sorry to have waited so long to respond.

I had just wheeled out of the parking lot at school and was listening
around 7.040 on the TS-50 in the car. It was set for 5 Watts, the
Bugcatcher was tuned up and I was ready to go.

I heard N6ULU (big signal) calling you so I knew I was in the right place.

I might have called you a couple of times when I heard you come back.
Your signal was not very strong, about 2 DB above esp :-)

Wow, you worked a lot of stations, congratulations. I know the hunters
appreciate a good fox operator.

I get to be the Fox again on December 19, hopefully I can do as good a
job as you did on Monday.

CUL,

Smitty, NA5K/m

Henry Smith (hbs@crl.com)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [1033] Re: N6ULU's THE FOX !
Message-ID: <9512071427.AA19042@gvlf6-a>

->Hello FOX chasers ..
->
->Be sure to listen THURSDAY NIGHT 9-12 EASTERN
->   6-9 WESTERN
->
->and everything in between for the 1995 CO-CHAMPION FOX.
->
->
->Looks like those boys in Texas (their calls start with na5) are
->really putting the pressure on me this year .
->
->So I really need all the help I can get (yes I'll even work wo0q
->who only trails me by 1 in the chasers count , and this will give
->us a tie for now)
->
->What a sport !
->
->
->Remember a free car to all who work me tomorrow night !

Yea... what kind?   Hot Wheels or MicroMachines?

->72 Stan, N6ULU , on the left coast
->Stan Goldstein

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Loral Defense Systems-Eagan (formerly Unisys Government Systems Group)
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: H Smith <hbs@crl.com>
Subject: [1047] Re: N6ULU's THE FOX !
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951207073419.15369B-100000@crl4.crl.com>

On Wed, 6 Dec 1995, Stan Goldstein, N6ULU wrote:

> Hello FOX chasers ..
>
> Be sure to listen THURSDAY NIGHT 9-12 EASTERN
> 6-9 WESTERN
>
> and everything in between for the 1995 CO-CHAMPION FOX.
>
> ... etc ...
>
> Remember a free car to all who work me tomorrow night !
>

We ran out of free cars here in Texas and had to start handing out
hundred acre tracts of land.

BTW, for a fee, we could crank up the propagation machine. Just tell us
what paths you want and we will punch it into the machine. Then stand
back, lots of heat and radiation.

Another BTW, perhaps a fair handicap would be doing the FOX from the
car in rush traffic :-)

CU tonite,

Smitty NA5k

Henry Smith (hbs@crl.com)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "'AB7HI' Stephen Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>
Subject: [949] Re: Need CA3160 Op Amp
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91j.951205203944.80585A-100000@homer16.u.washington.edu>

Dan,
I have some CA3160E in dip package by Harris Semiconductor. Do you
have some extra FT-37-77 cores???? Plan on sending away to Far
Printed Circuits for circuit boards? Will trade :)
Send me your address, let me know how many you need, and I'll send
them off to you.

Stephen Lee, AB7HI
slee@u.washington.edu

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [1052] Re: NorCal 40A working (Also HB vs kit)
Message-ID: <199512071644.JAA22290@usr3.primenet.com>

At 11:03 AM 12/7/95 EST, Stephen Trier wrote:
>
>Thanks to the help of many kind people, my NorCal 40A is working.
>I panicked too soon when I saw no output. I started debugging
>before I peaked C39 in the transmit mixer filter, which meant there
>was inadequate drive to the final. Make that about the 72nd thing
>I've learned from building this rig -- what a great educational
>experience! Sure beats classes... :-)
>
Congratulations, Stephen.

Now that basic design theory is not required to get a license, and no-one
HAS TO build rigs from scratch as in the dark past, building a kit is the
closest most folk can get to the essence of ham radio. Learning makes
it even better.

We have a number of hams in the local club busy constructing OHR kits, and
I doubt that any one of them would call it anything other than homebrew or
homebuilt. Building it, testing it, aligning and using it is enough of a
challenge for the contemporary ham.

I admire you old hams and EE types who can design/build a rig from scratch, and if you want extra points you can have 'em. I worked on my first "glow in the dark" rigs over 40 years ago, and am quite content to just build a kit now. Don't have time to scrounge parts, lost too many brain cells to remember all the circuit stuff, and it ain't important anyway. All this one-upmanship is pointless.

72, de Roger

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>
Subject: [1055] Re: NorCal 40A working (Also HB vs kit)
Message-ID: <199512071747.MAA103254@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>Now that basic design theory is not required to get a license, and no-one
>HAS TO build rigs from scratch as in the dark past, building a kit is the
>closest most folk can get to the essence of ham radio. Learning makes
>it even better.
>

If most people don't do it, how can it be the essence of ham radio?

>>>==>PStJTT

==
Patrick Taber   Email: ptaber@logicraft.com
Principal Software Engineer   Phone: (603) 880-0300
Logicraft Information Services   Fax: (603) 880-7229
22 Cotton Road   QRP-L: 215 (was hoping for 666)
Nashua N.H. 03063   Also known as: KC1TD

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: V$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com
Subject: [1075] Re: Now She Tells Me!
Message-ID: <01HYJ6HHANW20059HE@hub.qgraph.com>

I am confused...was the 75$ the gift or was the permission to spend $75 the gift???

Brian AE9K

```
From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec  8 03:12:00 1995
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [1077] Re: Now She Tells Me!
Message-ID: <9512072256.AA29472@voder.nsc.com>


It's a trap, Nick!  Don't fall for it.
She expects you to spend it on her.

Buy her something really nice.  You'll
be her GOD!


=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=
7.3 de Michael aa0ub               | QRP:
miker@cc.com                       |     "UR HB 5W FB HR 72"
QRP-L #126  Norcal #857  CQC #180  |
=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=




From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec  8 03:12:00 1995
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: [1086] Re: Now She Tells Me!
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951207164444.12960A-100000@crl7.crl.com>

Take the $75 and tell your wife that what the new rig costed.  Then
add enough to get what you want.





From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec  8 03:12:00 1995
From: Bruce Robertson <brucerob@epas.utoronto.ca>
Subject: [1066] Re: NPO cap tempco spec confusing
Message-ID: <Pine.SGI.3.91.951207152841.4575B-100000@blues.epas.utoronto.ca>

Another question about tempco ratings: there seem to be other letter
codes used to rate as well. I don't have a catalogue nearby, so I can't
copy them for analysis. Which of these are the real goods?

I notice in the previous post that the panasonic caps are the ones with
really low tempcos. Is this why they are about 3x more expensive than
other caps I've seen around? Don't tell me  you get what you pay for!

72, VE3UWL
```

Bruce G. Robertson Dept. of Classics, U. of T.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: ruswhite@netwest.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [1085] Re: Parts and Cores
Message-ID: <199512080111.SAA08882@saguaro.netwest.com>

>Folks, You can buy an "experimenters Kit" of parts from: 624 Kits
>171 Springlake Dr.   Spartanburg SC 29302   P: 803-573-6677
>for about $13 plus $3 shipping. There were three different types
>of cores supplied, sorry I have no list at present I will look it
>up. Call and request a catalog, leave your address. I've asked
>if they will sell just the cores, no answer yet.
>73 de KE3FL/Phil
>:)

Here is the experimenters kit: 1995 price maybe $15.00

5 T50-2 cores 5 FT37-43 cores
1 T68-6 core   1 T68-7 core
6' #24 magnet wire
6' #26 magnet wire
2 MPF102 FET
2 2N2222A Metal
5 2N3904
1 2N3866 and Heat Sink
10 .1uF Monolithic Capacitors
10 .01uF Ceramic Capacitor
5 10 uF Electrolytic Capacitors

They do have more so you might want to request a catalog.
73,Russ

 |---|
 | |
 | Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG) QRP-ARCI   NORCAL   NEQRP |
 | Phoenix AZ |
 | QRP-L #179 |

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [1003] Re: parts FAQ?
Message-ID: <199512062233.WAA07862@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Tom, QRP-l #87, is now head of the FAQ!! If you can contribute and wanna help
send him email.

Sqeaky wheel gets the grease.

Tom, let us know who is on the committee.

dit dit es gl
--
Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "N1OOQ Tom R. @ MRO1 07-Dec-1995 0926" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [1036] re: parts FAQ?
Message-ID: <9512071431.AA18681@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

> Tom, QRP-l #87, is now head of the FAQ!! If you can contribute and wanna help
> send him email.

email your stuff to me at: randolph@est.enet.dec.com

I think I'm gonna restrict it to things that don't have obvious sources, like
toroids, chips, VVC diodes, etc. Resistors are out. I don't want to re-write
the ARRL's massive listing of all possible suppliers for everything.

I'm gonna try to keep it down to a size that can be posted here once in a while
without causing problems.

==
Tom Randolph N1OOQ NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL   randolph@est.enet.dec.com
==
(and keeper of the parts FAQ)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [974] Re: QRP on 160m
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951206084657.18340B-100000@ume>

For city lot: shunt fed tower with extension wire for added top loading
is the best I have found. The K6sti loop described in QST helps
reception or use any other antenna (not vertically polarized) is things
are noisy for reception.

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)   *   VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor   *   NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary * "Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>
Subject: [979] RE: QRP+ Polarity Reversal
Message-ID: <9512061613.AA00715@garnet.inel.gov>

At 22:31 12/5/95 GMT, you wrote:
>Larry et.al.,
>
>One thing that some people do is to put something like a 4.7K resistor
>across the antenna input leads to provide a path to ground to drain off
>static charges that accumulate. It shouldn't effect the effeciency of
>the antenna.
>
There is a resistor (two in series, actually) to ground (a few K) associated
with the rig's ALC circuit. I also have added 100K 1/2W resistors to ground
in all my tuners (my old MFJ 941 did NOT have any resistor to ground). But
that just bleads off slow build-up of charge, and won't help much when a
fast discharge (induced by lightning, etc.) occurs.

>I seem to remember that some MFJ tuners do this internally, but then
>again I may be wrong again.
>
Maybe they are now adding one in their newer models (mine is at least 15
years old...)

72, Larry.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [984] RE: QRP+ Polarity Reversal

Message-ID: <199512061814.NAA17627@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

>
>One thing that some people do is to put something like a 4.7K resistor
>across the antenna input leads to provide a path to ground to drain off
>static charges that accumulate. It shouldn't effect the effeciency of
>the antenna.
>
>I seem to remember that some MFJ tuners do this internally, but then
>again I may be wrong again.
>
>dit dit
>--
>Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
>Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150
>

Hi Gang,
Been there, done that. I have a MFJ tuner (qrp) and it didn't have
that resistor so I put one on. It was in place when the rig went POOF.

Index labs is very familliar with this problem, and indicated that
in a phone call. I had a 4 amp fuse in the rig,which is the recommended
fuse size. The power supply is a 35 amp supply that drives all
my other 12 volt stuff. I keep the supply because some day I want
to have a real radio again. :)

de AA1IK   N.E.-QRP-C. # 202   (Lead by example, It is better to   )
                  QRP-L member #95.   (pull a string than it is to push it.)
Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
 S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU

Subject: [1028] RE: QRP+ Polarity Reversal
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951207065349.543814727C-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

On the resistor in the ATU: It is useful only for slower charge build-ups, where slower is a relative term. For a truly fast spike, the combination of L and C in the ATU and even in the RX may be enough to slow the time constant down so that a very high spike can do its damage. With solid state, it does not matter for a 1 cycle spike whether the circuit is complete (cuz it won't know that til its been there) or whether you work from + down or circuit ground up: a high voltage differential between an input (transistor base, etc.) and a plane (whether the ground or supply voltage line) may be enough to be destructive in a blink of an electron's eye--and since Ls and Cs are energy storage units, they may in certain configurations make the problem worse. In some configurations, they can turn protective circuits into dangerous ones, relative to a sensative input structure. Cure? Perhaps a sturdier input device. Vacuum tube, anyone? MMIC? In the end, safety procedures may be the safest procedures, like the total disconnect recommended for the QRP+ not in use, power cable connection before the supply (completely discharged) is plugged in to the wall, added line switch (DPST) in a battery supply, etc. Even if Timex made all the QRP rigs (takes a lickin and keeps on tickin), I'd still cling to that old saying that haste makes waste, do not hurry, have patience, etc. (Pick your favorite version--better yet, pick the one that irritates you most, since you are less likely to forget that one.)

-73-
LB, W4RNL

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Subject: [1082] Re: Radio Shack DSP / RF problems
Message-ID: <15866.818378005@safety.ics.uci.edu>

I have not had any RF getting into my Radio Shack DSP, and have used it with (gasp) 100 watts output as well as lower power. It is, indeed discontinued, it is not longer shown in the latest catalog. I found one in Jackson, Michigan about two weeks ago for $49.95. It really is worth that price.

Clark
WA3JPG

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Joe Spencer <jspencer@metronet.com>
Subject: [1074] Re: Radio Shack DSP ??
Message-ID: <Pine.HPP.3.90.951207162522.28996B-100000@fohnix.metronet.com>

Hi Paul,
I am a big proponent of the RS DSP. It wors very well on CW and good
on phone,SAT, music etc.

If you can find them on sale buy one! As has been posted here before,
if you can find them for $50 or less buy all they have...I have heard
it said they may be discontinuing them(same rumor was around last JUNE)
if so they are a good investment...they also make an excellant audio amp
to use in conjunction with HB radios.

72, Joe KK5NA

Joe Spencer KK5NA . .
jspencer@metronet.com
QRP ARCI-8781   NORCAL-1179   NORTEX-112   G-QRP 8959 QRP-L 86
Arlington, TX

On Thu, 7 Dec 1995, Paul Weiss wrote:

> Hello All,
>
> Does anyone have any thoughts on the Radio Shack DSP ? How about
> anyother cheap DSP for CW? I am looking for a cheap DSP for my QRP
> set up that I take with my on my military trips.
>
> Thanx .....Paul
> ____
> Paul Weiss - KC7FYQ   pweiss@compumedia.com
>
> Ft. Lewis, Wa   URL - http://compumedia.com/~pweiss
> ____
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "John T. Croteau" <jt@comsol.org>
Subject: [1080] Re: Radio Shack DSP ??
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951207172921.1368A-100000@aurora.comsol.org>

On Thu, 7 Dec 1995, Joe Spencer wrote:

> If you can find them on sale buy one! As has been posted here before,
> if you can find them for $50 or less buy all they have...I have heard
> it said they may be discontinuing them(same rumor was around last JUNE)
> if so they are a good investment...they also make an excellant audio amp
> to use in conjunction with HB radios.

I will sell one of mine for $50.00 or trade for some HB parts/kits or a
good multimeter (LCD).

   John T. Croteau - A.R.S. KA1VIX   Linux and Small HomeBrewed QRP
   From Beautiful Minneapolis, Minn.   Station and Proud of it!

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Phil Wheeler <pcw@netcom.com>
Subject: [1032] Re: Radio Shack DSP ???
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512070624.A27195-0100000@netcom2>

Main thought is that RS does not seem to stock the DSP anymore -- at
least I cannot find it in the latest catalog.

Phil (pcw@netcom.com)
    aka w6tuh

On Thu, 7 Dec 1995, Paul Weiss wrote:

> Hello All,
>
> Does anyone have any thoughts on the Radio Shack DSP ? How about
> anyother cheap DSP for CW? I am looking for a cheap DSP for my QRP
> set up that I take with my on my military trips.
>
> Thanx .....Paul
> ____

> Paul Weiss - KC7FYQ   pweiss@compumedia.com
>
> Ft. Lewis, Wa   URL - http://compumedia.com/~pweiss

> ____
>
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995

From: Bill Acito 07-Dec-1995 0940 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [1039] re: Radio Shack DSP ???
Message-ID: <9512071443.AA04487@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

> Does anyone have any thoughts on the Radio Shack DSP ? How about
> anyother cheap DSP for CW? I am looking for a cheap DSP for my QRP
> set up that I take with my on my military trips.
>
> Thanx .....Paul
> ____
> Paul Weiss - KC7FYQ   pweiss@compumedia.com

If cw is the purpose, grab an OHR SCAF (switched capacitor audio filter) instead.

A bit more, but smaller and better performance.

b

. . . . . - I own my own words - . . . . . .
Bill Acito
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS .:. qrp-ne .:. qrp-l .:. qrp-arci .:. norcal .:. arrl life .:.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Subject: [1062] Re: Radio Shack DSP ???
Message-ID: <12859.818361874@safety.ics.uci.edu>

The Radio Shack DSP is a wonderful little unit for the closeout price of $49.95. No noise reduction, even though it advertises that. However, it has a good internal speaker, plenty of gain, and reasonable CW filters. You cannot adjust the center frequency of the filters, they are fixed at 800 Hz or wherever they are. They seem to work fine, though. It runs on 12 volts DC and is fairly light. The unit is not stable on a platform,

the legs are just slippery plastic. I may put some rubber down
there. It is fairly light and compact. I recommend it, if you
find one at the closeout price.

Clark
WA3JPG

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: "'AB7HI' Stephen Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>
Subject: [1083] Re: Radio Shack DSP ???
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91j.951207152705.13994A-100000@homer23.u.washington.edu>

I've got the RS DSP filter unit. Using it with my Icom IC701
dating from the '80's it works out pretty good. The 701 doesn't
have great selectivity in CW mode. Using the two together improves
selectivity yet I can disengage the DSP with a push of the switch
and have wide open reception. There are three filter positions;
narrow, medium, and wide. In the narrow position with the DSP
switched in the sidetone from my QRP+ and IC701 are barely audible.
In the medium and wide position the QRP+ sidetone comes through
very nicely while the higher pitched IC701 sidetone is still
attenuated. It's a minor annoyance but I can either tweak the
sidetone frequency or its volume on the IC701 to resolve the situation.

I have seen these DSP units being sold for $25.00 slightly used.
Got mine on sale when they first came out for the same price they're
selling for now.

I think one would fare better and be much happier with a SCAF kit
from OHR. I prefer the performance of the SCAF filter in my QRP+
to the RS DSP filter.

73 all,
Stephen Lee, AB7HI
slee@u.washington.edu

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: Frank G3YCC <frank@yorks.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [987] RE: Raleigh NC
Message-ID: <7TQz6NAQEexwEwWE@yorks.demon.co.uk>

Thanks to all who answered my message. Warren AD4ZE has offered to act

as intermediary on my behalf, so i won't need anyone else to act on this matter, but MANY THANKS to all who offered!
73
--
Frank G3YCC

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: rnygren@epix.net (Bob Nygren)
Subject: [1061] RE: S&S Eng. TAC1
Message-ID: <Chameleon.951207145924.rnygren@epix.net>

You wrote,

>Anyone have any first-hand knowledge of S&S's TAC1? Mike, WA8MCQ wrote an
>interesting "prototype sighting" last April, but was unable to comment on
the
>rig's performance.
>
<<<SNIP>>>
>
>Thanks,
>Craig, AA3MD Washington, D.C.
>
Hi Craig,
     I built the TAC-1 for 80 Meters earlier this year. My only other qrp kit was the OHR Wattmeter. The kit is 2 circuit boards. I took my time and had no major problems. You will need a frequency counter and a half decent digital multimeter. The instructions and high quality circuit boards makes construction fairly easy. But again, patience is the key!
     I ran the TAC-1 in CW Sweepstakes using a horizontal 80 Meter loop antenna. It was like shooting fish in a barrel!! 125 Qso's. During the Holiday Sprint last weekend I worked 24 stations in 2 hours on 80 M.
     The TAC runs 5 watts out off a 13.6 volt supply. RX is nice and tight. (No measurements, but Sweeps proved that!)
     I am pleased with my TAC !

     Regards, Bob WA3YON <rnygren@epix.net>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: [965] RE: toroid core sources
Message-ID: <32866.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>

> OHR no longer sells the toroids. Could someone point to some alternate
> sources?
>
Ocean State Electronics
P.O. Box 1458
6 Industrial Dr.
Westerly, RI 02891
1-800-866-6626
1-401-596-3590 FAX

72/73 K4CGY qrp-l #72

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: RHILTO@acxiom.com
Subject: [1046] Re: Vanity Calls
Message-ID: <0c70ba60@acxiom.com>

Didn't I see somebody on here offer a list, by call area, of
unassigned 1x2 calls? I think it was around last February...

Bob   ki5ez

>For what it's worth (see next paragraph) I was able to get the
>long-awaited FCC Form 610-V yesterday by fax-on-demand from Gettysburg.
>It is also available for download as a PCX file from www.fcc.gov (think
>that's the right web spot).

Phil (pcw@netcom.com)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [1051] Re: Vanity Calls
Message-ID: <199512071630.JAA16641@usr5.primenet.com>

At 10:46 AM 12/7/95 EST, RHILTO@acxiom.com wrote:
>Didn't I see somebody on here offer a list, by call area, of
>unassigned 1x2 calls? I think it was around last February...
>
>Bob   ki5ez

Check the Radio Devices homepage (www.raddev.com).

73, de Roger

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [1058] Re: Vanity Calls
Message-ID: <9512071829.AA14427@voder.nsc.com>

A while back I offered the list of unused 1x2's and 2x1's.
That was from the previous issue of the QRZ! CD. I will
be happy to offer the list again, but I want to re-build
it from the latest issue of the CD.

To all that are interested, give me a few days, I'll then
make an announcement.

=-=
7.3 de Michael aa0ub | QRP:
miker@cc.com | "UR HB 5W FB HR 72"
QRP-L #126 Norcal #857 CQC #180 |
=-=

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: rnygren@epix.net (Bob Nygren)
Subject: [1063] RE: VERTICAL ANT IDEAS HELP!!
Message-ID: <Chameleon.951207143655.rnygren@epix.net>

You wrote:
>
>   Gang: Two quickie antenna questions for you to ponder ===
>
>   1.I've seen a Delta Loop antenna mentioned here several times, but I'm
>   not too familiar with its construction. Here's what I had in mind

>   to build for 40 meters:
>
>
>
>
> | ====> high end abt. 30 feet (fed here with coax or twin)
> |||
> | | | ====> each side abt 47' (1005/7.04)
> | | |
> | | |
> | | |
> | | | ====> low end supported by wooden fence 8' above
>   -------------   ground
>
>   Is this the basic idea behind the Delta? Is the formula correct?
>
>   2. I've wanted to try out the DX possibilities of a vertical ant,
>   but don't want to shell out big bucks for a GAP or similar, only
>   to be disappointed by its performance. Can I just throw up about
>   a 33' piece of wire on a vertical support, attach this to the
>   center lead of coax, create a radial or counterpoise system
>   under the vertical wire and attach the coax shield to it?
>   Is this the basis for a cheap and dirty "experimental, see
>   how I like it, see if it works" vertical system?
>   If so, how many radials are best? How long 1/4, 1/2 wave?
>   For 40 meters, can I get away with less than 33' or so of
>   vertical?
>   In all cases, I'd be using a tuner with the setup.

>
>   72/73 de Dave KK5HA
>   QRP-L #25
>
Dave,
     I've run a delta loop on both 30 and 40 meters. If you can,
turn your design upside down. The flat side as high as possable.
Feed at the opposite angle. (Which is now closest to the ground.)
You need a quarter wave section of RG-11 or RG-59 to act as a
transmission line transformer, but you can find that that formula
in the Antenna Book or Handbook. 234/f(MHz)* Vf(velocity factor
of the coax, something like .66) The antenna plays well!!
     Question 2, YES! If you can get a few 1/4 wave radials, good.
But I belive that as the current in the radials is greatest close
to the antenna, is is more important to have many short radials as
opposed to having few longer radials. But I have not quantified my
own results. The conductivity of the soil may be a factor.
     Good Luck,
     Bob WA3YON

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: W3HMS@aol.com
Subject: [1087] Re: VERTICAL ANT IDEAS HELP!!
Message-ID: <951207174531_47542339@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Bob....is this effectively an equilateral triangle inverted with the feed at the boottom? I have used this and it seemes to work....have you used? is it better fed at the corner or bottom? 7273, John W3HMS

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Dec 8 03:12:00 1995
From: jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca (Jim Cummings)
Subject: [1040] Re: Vertical Antenna Idea
Message-ID: <9512071508.AA25235@clark.dgim.doc.ca>

>Here's another vertical antenna idea. I have used it in several fixed and
>portable configurations and it works.
>
>A vertical mast or a wire may be used. The length should be no greater than
>5/8 wavelength at the highest frequency you will use. That's about 20 feet
>at 28 MHz or 41 feet for a 14 MHz top frequency. The antenna will load on
>higher frequencies, but the radiation pattern will not be optimum for
>low-angle work as with 1/4 to 5/8 wavelength antennas.
>

(snip, snip)

>The antenna is nothing magical, it has a little gain towards it's top
>frequency range where the length is 1/2 to 5/8 wave. Electrically it is very
>similar to a groundplane antenna (either elevated or ground-mounted) or your
>VHF mobile 5/8 whip with the tuning coil at the base.
>
>Tuners: I have used the Icom AH-2 antenna tuner. Other whip and longwire
>autotuners will work, such as the SGC. Most manual tuners will work at the
>base of the antenna, but cheap manual "coax-only" tuners may not have enough
>L/C inside to tune out some reactances.
>
>73, Jay
>WB6AAM

A nice application of using auto tuners... I used an AH-2 and an SGC at my old station location where I was living in an apartment building, but I had access to the roof for my antennae. After much ruminating, I fed the tuners to a homebrewed 4:1 toroidal balun into a 40 metre long balanced dipole... worked great on 40 and 80 and the other bands in a pinch....

If anyone wishes to use an AH-2 with a rig other than and Icom 735 or Icom radioes of that era, just apply 13 V dc to the appropriate pin on the DIN plug that would otherwise be plugged into the 735. When you wish to tune, put the rig in low power transmit (AM, FM, RTTY, or CW is fine - any of the SSB modes are useless!) and push the button. When the great LED comes on, then put the rig back on the mode and power setting that you intend to use. Granted, it is a bit tedious, but it is a great little tuner and I see no reason why it couldn't be used with other rigs.... Of course, the SGC is not as tedious....

Anyways, Jay's article folds in nicely with a conversation that I have been having the last couple of mornings on one of the local 2 metre repeaters on the run into work. My friend wishes to install a vertical on the roof of his house for HF operation. He has a Cushdraft AP8, but he is disatisfied with its narrow bandwidth of operation (40 kHz or so) on 80 metres. It just so happens that I am thinking of building, with another amateur, one of those screw driver antennae (a commercial version is the High Sierra HS-1 - and there are equivalents). I invited this friend to participate in building his own with us, but this has gotten me thinking...

To explain.... the screw driver antenna was developed by Don Johnson, W6AAQ (I think that's his call) and he called it the DK3... It is a centre loaded whip, where the coil can be adjusted for the frequency of operation by means of cordless screw-driver... the screw driver and threaded rod are inside a 2' in copper/brass/aluminium tube, and this extends or retracts the coil for lowest VSWR on the band. The coil is roughly one metre long (about 36 inches for the metrically challenged) and has a cut-down CB stainless whip, about 165 cm (66 inches) long, mounted on top of the coil.... If you really want the dirty details, drop Don a line and he will send out to you the sheets that will guide you into building one of these beasts. Better still, contact Worldradio and get a copy of Don's book 45 + 5 years of mobiling - or something like that. No doubt about it, Don's ego is strong, but it is well worth the read.

The point being that not only is the antenna a pretty good mobiling antenna (I used an HS-1 for a while and was quite impressed with it), but I would imagine that it would make a fine "low visibility" or "My-property-is-the-size-of-a-postage-stamp" type of antenna. However, like all quarter wave antennae, it is subject to the caveat that one must have a good ground system in order for it to work properly. I really don't want to get into that because there are a lot of different themes that could be

discussed on that topic. However, it has occured to me that instead of building a quarter wave version, why not build a half wave version?

If we look at all the advertisements of these half wave antennae, they all claim that ground radials are not required. This would seem to make sense because theoretically, at a half wave, the feedpoint would have a maxima voltage, with a minima current. Since there is no feed-point current, ground loss currents are trivial and should not be a concern. The problem is, however, that the feedpoint impedance of these antennae is infinite and the problem is how to transform this infinite impedance down to 50 ohms.

Obviously, the impendance of these antennae is not infinite, but is nonetheless quite high. Although it would seem to be the perfect application to use one of these remote tuners to feed one of these beasts, this is not the case. The accompanying literature states that these tuners are unable to resolve the impedance to 50 ohms of an antenna that is one-half wave length at the frequency of operation.

It would seem however that both Cushcraft and Hy-gain have solved that problem. I don't know how Hygain does it, but Cushcraft uses a black box for the R-5 and R-7 anennae. I have popped open the box on my R-5 for a quick look and it appears that Cushcraft have use two toroids in some manner to achieve this impedance transformation. The question is - Does any body have a schematic for this box, or indeed have another solution to transform the high impedance of the half wave radiator to 50 Ohms?

I hope there is someone out there who can help. If nothing, I guess I will have to ask this question on the newsgroup on antennae....

 ====================================
              Jim Cummings
   eMail:jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca
  packet:VE3XJ@VE3JF.#EONT.ON.CA.NOAM
      73 and live better digitally
       DON'T GET TOO EXCITED...
  because remember, today is the first
     day of the rest of your life.
 ====================================

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 7 03:10:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [959] Re: your mail
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951206070832.543753982E-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

On Tue, 5 Dec 1995, JIM HALL wrote:
> Regarding coax feedline:
> I've noticed several comments lately about feedline loss.
> Is there any appreciable difference in using RG-174/U
> instead of RG-8X on the HF bands?
Jim,

Yes, there is. Losses increase as the coax gets smaller, starting from RG-213 through RG-8X, RG-58, and RG-174. Also being flimsier, the RG-174 deforms its internal structure more easily after kinking. Its best use is inside a rig and for noncritical shielded leads, e.g., from a key to a rig. Short-lead test set-ups also fall in this category.

Now having said that, do not hesitate to use it as called for by circumstance. It is lighter to carry into the field than anything else. So for an antenna feedline at QRP, it will work. Just remember that you are losing a little more, which gets multiplied by the added losses due to excessive SWR. So keep the line to the antenna as short as possible and keep the lead unkinked whether in use or in storage.

Almost any catalog or HB will have the loss figures per 100 feet at various frequencies for different types of line. In the end, what you use is dictated by your application with a weight vs. loss compromise worked into the equation.

Hope this is of some use.

-73-
LB, W4RNL

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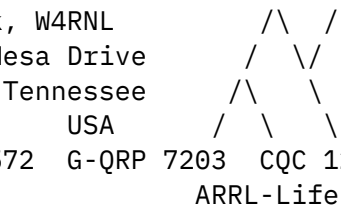

QRPARCI 2572 G-QRP 7203 CQC 125 NEQRP 347 NORCAL 1111 MIQRP 1432
QRP-L 37 ARRL-Life QCWA-Life 10-10 41159